MUTHANNA'S RECORDS.

Capt. J. McLeod's Report on Coorg — 8th Dec. 1795

Capt. Carpenter's Report on the last Raja of Coorg.

Lady Lopin's Report on the Princess Gowramma of Coorg.

Script on the tomb-stone of Gowramma — London Cemetery — 1864.

Lady Lopin & the Raja's letters.

Hilton Brown on Coorg (1922) Blackwood Magazine — Edinburgh.

Montgomery Martin's letters on the Raja's Will — to the Court.

I. M. Muthanna
July 1974

DR. I. M MUTHANA,
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I. M. Muthana
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Some important letters and correspondence.

I. M. Muthana
July 1974

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1795 A.D.

Notes on COORG.
OR
KODAGU

By

Capt. J. McLeod,
8th December 1795

Deciphered and typed by:-

I. M. Muthanna.
5th January 1966.

LONDON U.K.
JANUARY - 1966

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Notes respecting the Affairs of Kurnul. Coorga, Corringatte and Tanjore taken from the Enclosures.

The Coorga country fell under the dominion of Hyder Ali in ------when he invaded Malayalam. The districts of Amara Soolya and Yelusaviraseeme, ancient appendages of Coorgs were alienated, and Coorga itself was parceled out in Jaghirs. The period when this partition took place is not exactly stated.

The authority of the Mysorean Govt. was at different times disputed by the Coorgs chiefs.

CAPTIVITY & ESCAPE:- In ------the Raja Haleri Virarajendra W. and his brother, both infants, were conveyed to the fort of Peryapatna, where they were held in captivity till------when they both escaped. The period of their escape is variously stated.

WAR OF I780 etc: During the war of I780-4, the Coorga people made common cause with the Company against the Mysorean. Oota or Otia Naig appeared as their civil and military chief- This man anxiously looked to the British for protection but was necessarily abandoned by them when in consequence of the treaty of Peace concluded between Great Britain and France orders were received in India for opening a negotiation with Tipu Sultan on liberal terms.

In Feb. I784 while the negotations were carrying on at Mangalore, Utia Naig made earnest application to the Commissioner-in-Chief for the British Army on the Malabar coast for assistance informing him at the same time that the country below the Ghats to the northward of Mangalore, were all in Tipu's hands, and that the Sultan was preparing to reduce Coorga for which purpose he had assembled I2,000 horses, 30,000 foot and 40 pieces of artillery etc at Astaree (?), situated about I0 miles N.(?) of Coorga camp and country; through which it would be necessary for him to fight his way if the intended to attack Tellicherry.

It might be supposed that Oota Naig was either related or strongly attached, to the interests of the Raja of Coorga, he is, however, represented by Col.Andw.Gordon in his letter of 31st Jan. I784 to the Bombay Govt. as an upstart Raja who was making conquests in the Coorga(Corergal ?) country- the Colonel informed them that Tipu had marched a body of troops against him.

PEACE OF MANGALORE AND ABONDONMENT OF THE COORGS BY THE COMPANY:- On the IIth March I784, peace was concluded between the Company and Tipu Sultan by which event the people of Coorg and of the province of Malabar were laid open to the tyrants' resentment. The events which followed are but slightly mentioned in these materials. It appears however, on the authority of Mr. Uhtoff, Ag.Resident of Poona/ letter of I7th Oct.I795 to the Governor-General that the power of Tipu was not permanently established at that time/ I784/

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INVASION OF COORGS BY TIPU- DESOLATION OF THE COUNTRY AND DEPORTATION OF THE INHABITANTS:-

For as that gentleman observed, that the Sultan was engaged in hostilities with the Malabars and Coorgs in the beginning of the year 1786 when the allied Armies of the Mahrattas and the Nizam invaded his country in the direction of Badami (Buddammy ?). Although the exact period is not mentioned, it was asserted by Gen.Abrecromby in his letter of the 12th Feb.1791 to Lord Cornwallis that the Coorgs country had been laid waste by Tipu for some years; and by the Coorgs Raja at a conference with Capt.Murray in July 1793/ Capt.Murray to Mr. Duncan 19th Sept. 1793 that it was universally known that Tipu partly by force and partly by treachery carried away captive (s) above a lakh Lac ?-of the inhabitants of Coorga and afterwards parcelled out the Coorga country-

PARTITION OF THE COUNTRY INTO JAGHIRS: in jaghirs to his dependants- at this conference, the Raja observed that his country remained with Hyder and Tipu-

RAJA'S ESCAPE FROM PRISON- RETURN TO HIS OWN COUNTRY, REVOLUTION OF THE INHABITANTS IN HIS FAVOUR- till the time of his escape from Periapatna which/ he said/ took place two or three years previous to the commencement of the war. The circumstance of Tipu's being engaged with the Mahrattas and the Nizam, in the Adoni Quarter in 1786 and in Jan.1787 would lead to a supposition that he evacuated the Coorgs country about that time- the Raja proceeded to inform Capt.Murray that he immediately returned to his own country, where he was acknowledged as their Raja by every man if, and that the inhabitants of Amara, Soolia and Errusawera Sawmey were among the first who showed their attachment to him.

PERIOD OF RAJA'S ESCAPE DIFFERENTLY STATED- The account given by Mr. Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry, in his letter to the Malabar Commissioners dated 2nd April 1793, is widely different from the account given by the Raja respecting the period of his escape, and leads to different conclusions. Mr. Taylor states that soon AFTER the breaking of the war, the Raja and his brother, who had been confined from their infancy in one of Tipu's forts, made their escape-

REVOLUTION IN HIS FAVOUR AND EXPLUSION OF TIPU'S TROOPS- and returned to their own country, where the Raja immediately found followers and adherents, with whom he made head against Tipu's troops-

UNAIDED BY THE COMPANY'S TROOPS- and recovered his country, the post of Mercara being the last from whence he dislodged them. The Raja offered to make-

OVERTURES MADE BY THE RAJA TO THE CHIEF OF TELLICHERRY GLADLY ACCEPTED- common cause with the English. Mr.Taylor reflecting on the importance of having Coorgs pass open,gladly accepted his offer of friendship, and invited him to Tellicherry where an agreement was entered into in the month of October 1790 at which time he was in the actual possession of his country.

SERVICE RENDERED BY THE RAJA: He ever after showed himself the steady

and zealous friend of the British, and at one time or other, furnished upwards of 3000 bullocks for the use of the army.

QUESTION, AS TO THE PERIOD WHEN THE WAR COMMENCED- DISCUSSED:- To ascertain what is meant by the commencement of the war, will be found to be a matter of some importance as respects of three districts, which were, for so long a time, the subject of litigation between Tipu, the Raja and the Company; for the matter seems to have been brought to this issue by the Commissioners, Supervusor and Chief of Tellicherry. Was the Raja of Coorga in the actual possession of Amara Sulya and Elusaviraseeme, at the time when the hostilities commences? If so, it must be understood that in ceding the Talook Coorg, Tipu intended to cede the 3 districts as included in the territory possessed by the Raja previous to the commencement of hostilities? Tipu's attack on the Raja of Travancore lies on 29th Dec.1789; the first act of hostility committed by the Coorga Raja against Tipu, or the first act of hostility committed by the Company's troops against Tipu affixed to the name of the Talook Koork in the treaty of Srirangapatna-

COORGA TRIBUTE- was a tribute of 1000 pagodas. Was this a sum charged by the lump, or did it consist of certain particulars? The latter probably was not the case. It was said that the disputed districts were annexed to the Govt. of Mangalore; a question then would arise; was not a tribute paid by the inhabitants of these districts to the Govt.,of Mangalore, and to how late a period?

The commencement of the war on the part of the Company would seem to have taken place in April or May 1790, prior to which date the Coorg Raja is said to have commenced hostilities with Tipu, and to have recovered a part of his country.

RAJA'S HEROIC CONDUCT AND ZEALOUS ATTACHMENT MANIFESTED TOWARDS THE BRITISH DURING THE WAR OF 1789-92: The progress made by the Raja, and the assistance afforded by him to Gen.Abercromby during the war, are briefly noticed by the Raja himself, by Gen.Abrecromby and by Mr. Taylor. It appears by Mr.Taylor's letter of 18th Sept.1793 to Mr. Duncan, that the Coorga Raja retook his own country before the war began, invited the Company's troops into it, afforded them a passage to Srirangapatna, and furnished them with every accommodation in his power, whereas the Malabar Rajas all fled. This young prince at all times, most zealously assisted the English, and when the Bombay army descended the Ghats at the end of May 1791, kept possession of his country in defiance of Tipu, and against the beginning of fair season, opened the way to Srirangapatna.

CERTIFICATE GRANTED HIM BY GEN.ABRECROMBY SETTING FORTH THE RECONQUEST OF COORGA BY THE RAJA, AND ASSISTED BY THE BRITISH- OVERTURES MADE BY THE FORMER TO THE LATTER- TREATY. SERVICES RENDERED BY THE RAJA:

Gen.Abrecromby's acknowledgement of the Raja's services was drawn up in the form of a Treaty, and by him presented to the Raja on the 31St March 1793, a few days previous to his departure for Bombay.

The Ist article states that at the commencement of the war, the Raja was in possession of the greatest part of Coorga country, the reminder of which he afterwards recovered withiut the aid of the Company- that he offered his assistance, and that in consequence of this offer, an agreement was entered into on the 26th October I790.

The 2nd Article states that the Raja entered most heartly into the war, and supplied the Bombay army under Gen.Abrecromby with a quantity of grain and cattle, without which the troops would have been greatly distressed, and for which the Raja had to this period, declined taking any pecuniary compensation.

RAJA'S UNSHAKEN FIDELITY: The 3rd Article states that from the commencement of the war to its conclusion, the Raja continued most firmly attached to the interests of the Company, not withstanding the repeated attempts of Tipu to seduce him.

A STRIKING INSTANCE ADDUCED: The Raja's letter of I7th July I792 to the Chief of Tellicherry affords a striking instance of his fidelity. The Raja observed that while Gen.Abrecromby, and his army were in his country, Tipu's officers wrote to him requesting him to commit some treason against the English army to make them go away- that he sent these letters, and the messengers who brought them to Gen.Abrecromby; and wrote to Tipu informing him that he had but one tongue, and having pledged his word to the English, he would never prove false to them.

The 4th Article states that in March I792, when settling the articles of the Treaty of Peace at Srirangapatna, Lord Cornawallis in consideration of the noble and disinterested conduct of the Raja, determined to render him entirely independent of Tipu, and to extend to him, and his country, the Company's protection- that numberless objections were made to this on the part of the Sultan, but were overruled; and that the tribute, amounting to 8,000 hoon, said to have been annually paid to Tipu from the Coorga country, was transferred to the Company. TRIBUTARY TRANSFERRED TO THE COMPANY; THE AMOUNT TRIFLING.

RAJA'S PRETENDED CONSENT TO REMAIN A TRIBUTARY PRINCE: The 5th Article states that the Raja readily agreed to pay to the Company 8,000 Hoons per annum for their friendship, though he declared that Tipu never received that sum from his country.

This stipulation was made in conformity to Lord Cornawallis's letter of 23rd March I792 to Gen.Abrecromby, although the sum was considered to be trifling, no advance was to be made.

COMPLAINTS AS TO THE PAYMENTS OF TRIBUTE: Whatever willingness the Raja may have expressed in his communication with Gen.Abrecromby, his tone was materially altered, when at a conference with MINUTES OF MR.DUNCAN- 4th April I793- Duncan, which took place a few days after, he complained of the change of circumstances in which he was now placed by the modification of the treaty of October.

NO TRIBUTE IMPOSED BY THE TREATY OF I790: - of October I790 which imposed no tribute upon him. He did not see why he should pay for the Company's protection for he considered them to be under obligation to him in a greater degree than he was indebted to them, and as to the future; he was under no apprehensions, for he asserted that Tipu could not overcome him by force or deceive him by fraud.

Mr.Duncan proceeded to observe that the Raja had not, on his part, entered into any engagements for the payment of his tribute; nor had he even been asked to sign such engagements, since, from the tenor of his langauge, it appeared that such a proposition would have only rendered him more jealous of the English, without effectively securing the payments for which it would be necessary for him to trust to his good will, and to his honour/ of which he appeared to possess a high sense; that he promised to pay up the whole by the end of each year in such away as should best suit him. He said he had realised nothing from his country since the war, but would, if required, borrow money and pay the Company from the same time the Malabar Rajas did. Mr.Duncan allowed him about I2 months' ~~instalment~~ abatement of tribute for the improvement of his country.

The Raja made similar complaints to Capt. Murray who was deputed to Nocknar (Nalknad ?) in July 1790 and Sept.following. The Captain observed in his letter of I9th Sept. to Mr.Duncan that it was his opinion that the Raja was not satisfied that any Revenue should be taken from him. He did not however express himself in such plain term as those he made use of in conversation with Mr. Duncan. He considered the tribute to be laid too high because the country produced but little. He admitted that the inhabitants and cultivation were increasing, but, at the same time complained of the great expense he incurred in making advances to the new settlers/ to whom he gave land free for five years/ and of the inability of the old ryots, at the time, to pay their full rents.

The 6th Article of the certificate asserts that the Company never intended to interfere in the interior management of the Raja's country, trusting that a prince possessing the most liberal sentiments would make the happiness of his people his constant study.

It may now be proper to take further notice of the conduct of the war on the part of the Raja, as stated by the Raja himself, briefly, and incidentally on several occasions.

CONQUESTS MADE BY THE RAJA DURING THE WAR, RELINQUISHED AT THE PEACE- In his letter of 7th June I792 the Raja informed the Commissioners appointed to settle the province of Malabar that formerly there were disputes between him and Tipu- that Tipu took the whole of his country- that he took from Tipu. Eigoor- a good country, that lay contiguous to the Mangalore and Bedanur districts, and that he had given up the country of Eigoor by order of Gen.Abrecromby.

In a letter bearing the same date, he informed the Chief of Tellicherry that he took certain districts belonging to Ajur Nagur and Mangalore and that at the conclusion of peace he evacuated Tipu's country.

In a subsequent letter to the same person/ I7th July I792, he mentioned having taken sundry (?) places situated between Subramania and Mangalore, also the districts of Ajur; the whole of which he relinquished.

In his letter of 2nd April I793 to Gen.Abrecromby, he notices the restoration of the village of Ergoor which he had taken from Tipu.

RAJA'S CONQUESTS: Finally during his conference with Capt. Mathew Murray at Naknar (Nalknad) in July I793, the Raja mentioned the ~~Raja mentioned~~ the names of sundry places which he had wrested from Tipu during the war and relinquished at the conclusion of peace- viz. Phitoor (Puttur), OOpanagurry (Uppinangadi), Punja and Bellare Merda and hinted at other places situated beyond Amara and Sulya, of the whole of which the annual revenue amounted to 40,000 Hoons. He declared that he could have maintained the possession of these places in defiance of Tipu; and even at this time, the inhabitants came to him for protection which he could not now give them./ Capt.Murray to Mr. Duncan- I9th Sept.I793.

Having noticed briefly the events of the war, it will be proper to take into consideration the disputes which succeeded the Treaty of peace concluded at Srirangapatna/ I6th March I792 respecting the districts of Amara, Sulya and Yelusaviraseme and the invasions and predatory incursions which took place on both sides whether authorized or unauthorized by Tipu Sultan and Coorga Raja.

On the I5th March I792, the day previous to the signature of the Definitive Treaty, Lord Cornwallis writing to Sir Charles Oakley, Governor of Madras informed him respecting the progress of the negotiation and the vigorous defence for which the enemy was preparing; on the subject of Coorgs, he observed that it was with great difficulty that Tipu was brough to act in quiet(?) that country.

This circumstance was mentioned to the Raja by Mr.Farmer(?) Supervisor of Calicut in a letter dated I9th July I793. He had already in his letter of 27th June directed Capt.Murray who was deputed to Nalknad (Nocknar) to tell the Raja that by the cession of the Malabar country, the Coorgs country was understood to be included, and that when it was found not to be so, the war was very near being resumed, merely to show the good faith of the Company to him; that it was very unfortunate that no well informed person was present on his part when the Minutes of peace were settled, and that by a similar mistake and negligence, certain other Rajas were entirely precluded from the protection of the Company, for which reasons it would be necessary for the Raja to content himself with the Talook of Coorga dismembered of the districts of Amara and Sulya and Yelusaviraseme, in the defence of which he would receive no help from the Company's Govt. Capt.Murray was directed, in

in the event of a negotiation with Tipu's officers, to insist upon the Raja's title to the three districts.

Capt.Murray arrived at Nalknad, the Raja's capital, on the I5t July, and on the following day delivered his message unreservedly, as it would appear by the effects which the communication of it produced. Instead of taking any blame upon himself for not having deputed a Vakeel to Srirangapatna in March I792, he upbraided the English with ill faith in neglecting his interests, with tears of rage, declared his detrmination/ whatever conduct the Company might be pleased to adopt/ to defend the disputed districts, and in the event of being worsted by the enemy, to burn and destroy everything and die in the last Ryke.(Murray's private letter-I8th July I793

Having stated the circumstances under which the treaty was concluded and the dissatisfaction expressed by the Raja on being made acquainted therewith it may be proper in the next place, to state the particulars which these documents afford respecting the three districts of Amara. Sulya and Elusaviraseme.

With respect to Amara, the Raja informed Capt.Murray at the conference which took place at Nalknad on the I4th July I793, that on a farmer occasion, a Raja and a warrior, one of his predecessors, being on a visit to the Rani of Bedanore, and having found favour in her sight, she having no children, called him her son, and made over this district- AMARA -GRANTED BY A RANI OF BEDANORE TO AN ANCESTOR OF THE COORGA RAJA- to him as a WIZEJA, giving it the name of Amara, which in the language of that country means milk, and was emblematical of the new relation established between them.

UNPRODUCTIVE, BUT IMPORTANT IN MILITARY POINT OF VIEW: This small district produced little. Its importance was received from its proximity to the MENSEE Ghats which is a key to Coorga Country/ Capt.Murray I8th July I793.

FURTHER RESPECTING RAJA'S TITLE TO IT: Mr.Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry in his letter of I8th Sept. I793 to Mr.Duncan, confirmed the Raja's statement with respect to the grant of Amara by a Rani of Bedanore to the Coorga family. At another conference at Nalknad in Sept.I793, the Raja repeated the information respecting the grant of Amara by the Rani of Bedanore. He stated it to have taken place near two centuries back./ Capt.Murray to Mr.Duncan in Sept.I9th, I793.

The Malabar Commissioners in their letter of I2th June I792 to Lord Cornawallis, writing on the subject of Amara observed that in the map taken by Capt. Reynolds there was marked, as included in the limits of Coorgs country, the district of Amara, formerly given to the Raja's family by the Rani of Bedanore; for this reason they were of opinion that this district ought rather to be considered as annexed to the Coorga Country than originally forming part of the Talooka Coorga, and that Tipu might claim it as part of Bedanore country.

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SOOLIA: The small district of Soolia which lay contiguous to Amara was likewise a grant to the Coorga Raja made sometime afterwards by a Raja of Bedanore, part of the revenues of which were to be appropriated to the maintenance of the Talecauvery Pagoda, an ancient sanctified place of Hindu worship and resort situated in Coorg, at the source of the Cauvery river. Capt.Murray- I9th Sept.I793.

Mr.Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry in his letter of I8th Sept.I793 to Mr.Duncan states that Sulia had, at various times, been attacked to the Talooka Coorga having been originally granted as a maintenance to a pagoda in that Talooka but wrested from and retaken at different times by the Coorga Raja. Soolia, like Amara, was unproductive, and derived importance from its proximity to a pass called the Tolneu pass.

AMARA & SOOLIA: THEIR IMPORTANCE: The possession of either the Mensea or Tolneu passes would enable Tipu to invade Coorg at pleasure whereas it would not be ~~the power~~ in the power of the Raja, though master of these two places, to annoy Tipu in the Mangalore country/ Capt.Murray to Mr.Farmer -I8th July ~~I8~~ I793.

The importance of Amara and Soolia in a military point of view, and their insignificance as to the revenue which they produced is further setforth in Capt.Murray's letter of I9th April I793 to Mr.Duncan. These two districts below the Ghats, said he, are bounded by a thick jungle, and the countries otherwise, naturally strong and not above Rs. 5,000 value per annum. For these reasons he did think that Tipu would renew his pretensions or disturb the Raja in the possession of them.

Further particulars respecting the disposal of these places will be introduced hereafter; for the present it will be proper to give a short description of the other district claimed by Tipu, that is Elusaviraseme.

ELUSAVIRASEME: which is also called by the name of ASARA, ELSARY and SAAT HAZRA MOOTH, is decribed thus by Capt.Murray in his letter of I8th July I793 to Mr.Farmer. Asara Seme is a long slip of land in the north of Coorga country which runs into Tipu's district, but is at present waste, excepting a small part of the south end of it, which is under the Raja, as for the rest, he seems to make no account of it.

CEDED BY A RAJA OF BELOOR TO A RAJA OF COORGA: The account given by the Coorga Raja as per Capt. Murray's letter of I9th Sept. I793 to ~~the~~ Mr, Duncan, states that Ersavira Seeme anciently belonged to the Raja of Beloor but that that the Coorga Rajas had wars with that power, and that it was ceded to Coorg at a peace which took place between them many ages ago, and remained as a Coorg district until the whole of the Coorga country passed into the hands of Hyder, about 20 years back.

TIPU DISALLOWS THE CESSION: Tipu Sultan in his letter of Aug. 1793 (?) to Mr Farmer insisted that the Talooka of Elusaviraseme stood as

as usual included in the Talooka of Beloor, and had for hundreds of years past, "been and made" part of the country of Srirangapatna.

Lt.Emmet who was employed in surveying the districts asserted that Elusavira Seme or the Saat Hazaar Mulk, had been proved by the testimony of the inhabitants , to have belonged to the Rajas for 200 years or more/ Capt.Murray IIth Sept.I793.

When Capt.Murray visited Tellicherry for the purpose of consulting the natives of Malabar, Bednore and Mysore who resided there he was unable to obtain further information respecting this place being situated above the Ghats/ To Mr.Duncan I9th Sept.I793.

The Raja of Coorg in his letter of 7th June I792 to the Commissioners observed that the districts of Amara, Panje and Soolya lay between the Ghats on the Mangalore side and were considered part of Coorg for 4 or 500 years., and that during all this period, they neither belonged to the Eigoor or Mangalore countries.

The account which the Raja gave to the Chief of Tellicherry in his letter of I7th July I792, differs a little from the above mentioned statement. He informed that gentleman that he had retained these two districts because they had been in his possession ever since the time of the king of Iquery (IKKERI), a period of more than 200 years and that Hyder took Bedanore he examined the districts ascertaining thereto, and found that these two places formerly belonged to the Raja of Ikkeri and were given to the Coorg Raja, and that in the same manner Hyder ceded these two places to the Coorga, on which account Tipu ought not to have invaded them. He appealed to the old inhabitants of Tellicherry for the truth of this assertion.

About May I792, and at some period subsequent thereto, Tipu Sultan complained of outrages committed by Coorga people. Tipu himself invaded the disputed districts in June I792. The matter was represented to Lord Cornawallis, and his Lordship/ as it may be inferred from Mr.Cherry's letter of 2nd Jan.I793 to Tipu's Vakeels, then at Madras with the hostages/ asserted the Raja's right to maintain possession of which had belonged to ~~the family~~ his family for more than 2oo years.

At the conference at Nalknad (I4th July I793), the Raja appealed to the people of Bedanore, Mysore and Malabar for the truth of this assertion that Amara and Sulia had for centuries, been appendages of the Coorga country, and declared his willingness/ on any future investigation/ to submit to whatever limits, they might give to it- insisted that Lord Cornwallis meant the whole of the Coorga country and none but Tipu would pretend to say that any partial division which either Hyder or himself might have made of the country, would be the true intention of the article of the treaty. (Capt.Murray-I8th July I793.

Mr. Farmer, Supervisor of Malabar, does not seem to have

been made acquainted with the purport of Mr.Cherry's letter of the 2nd Jan.1793 in which the Raja's right to Amara and Soolia is insisted upon, and if he was, he did not conceive that Lord Cornawallis had decidedly pronounced in the Raja's favour, for in his letter of 30th July 1793 to Capt.Murray, he expressed his wish that the matter might be settled previous to the departure of Lord Cornawallis for Europe; as he would tell what he understood by Talooka Coorg.(and Mr.Farmer doubted not that His Lordship meant to summarize the whole of the "real Coorga Country") Mr.Farmer directed Mr. Murray to tell the Raja that so far from admitting Tipu's right to Amara and Soolia in the letter of 29th June intended to be sent to the Sultan at a convenient opportunity, he had complainedto that --- Chief of the encroachment of his officers on those districts- that, Mr.Farmer, did not at all doubt that Amara and Soolia, which had been invaded, belonged to the Coorga, but wished merely to fix the real boundary between Amara and Soolia and the countries of Tipu- that ~~Ti~~ should Tipu deny the right of the Coorgto Amara and Soolya the point of right would go in reference to Lord Cornawallis, backed with all the strong arguments urged by him, the Raja, but that the possession of these districts would not be yielded up without such discussion, which in fairness, there was no doubt would and favourably to the Raja of Coorg.

Mr.Farmer's proposals for a negotiation seemed to have reached Tipu in Aug.1793. In reply the Sultan informed him that the talook of Amara and Soolia had for more than 5 or 600 years been included in the country of the Bunder or port of Cooryal (Kodyal) and that that Bunder made part of the Ahmady Sirkar, and that the taluk of Yelusaviraseme stood, as usual included in the Taluka of Belur, and had for hundreds of years past made part of the country of Srirangapatna. The Sultan took no notice of the cessions subsequently made.

The Raja having appealed to the natives of Bedanore, Mangalore and Capt.Murray, in his letter of 6th Sept. 1793, advised Mr.Farmer to apply to Mr.Taylor, because many of these people resided at Tellicherry.

At the Raja's request, Capt.Murray repaired to Tellicherry for the purpose of ~~prosecuting~~ presenting his enquiries,(or prosecuting his enquiries). He arrived at that settlement on the 14th Sept. and on the 15th, addressed a letter to Mr.Farmer, in which he assured him that he had no doubt of the Raja's having been in possession of the districts before the commencement of the hostilities. The Raja had repeated his request that Capt.Murray would enquire of indifferent persons respecting these places and send their report to Marquess Cornwallis and repeated his promise to abide by it.

Capt.Murray having made necessary enquiries at Tellicherry was happy to find that the testimony of persons who had resided near the districts of Amara and Soolia confirmed the Raja's own statement at the district of Elusaviraseme lay above the Ghats, they were not acquainted with the particulars respecting it.

It has been already observed that the limits of Coorgs were not defined in the treaty of Srirangapatna. The Malabar Commissioners in their letter of I2th June I792 to Lord Cornawallis, and Mr.Farmer- in his letter of 27th June I793 to Capt.Murray, gave an opinion in favour of Tipu's claim. On the contrary Mr. Farmer's letter of 30th July favoured the Raja. He soon after returned to his former opinion and in his second letter to Capt. Murray expressed a wish that the Company would give up the Raja's tribute and leave him to settle his dispute with Tipu, since he affected to despise both them and him. He observed however that the chief point to be ascertained was whether the Raja was in actual possession of these places about May I790.

Mr.Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry in his letter of I8th Sept. I793 to Mr.Duncan asserted and explained the Raja's right to the districts of Amara and Soolia. As to Elusaviraseme, he was not sufficiently informed to give a decided opinion. He admitted that Hyder Ali had dismembered the Talook Coorg of these districts but was, at the same time of opinion that that circumstance ought to have no weight and advised that, in consideration of the important services rendered by the Raja, he should be effectively supported by the Company in the maintenance of these districts.

The alienation of three districts by the Govt. of Mysore is a fact admitted by all parties, the Raja himself not excepted.

Mr.Farmer, Supervisor of Malabar, in his letter of instruction to Capt.Murray who was about to proceed on his deputation to Nalknad, 27th June I793, stated that Tipu, after having subjected the Coorga country devided it, and placed a part under the Govt. of Khooshal Nagoor and part under Srirangapatna. He stated that his belief that the three districts were placed under the farmer, as they seemed to have been accessions, though of a long standing to the country of Coorga, whilst the original Coorg country was placed under Srirangapatna, and that only delivered under the name of Talook Coorg.

At the conference of I4th July I793 at Nalknad, the Raja admitted that Hyder and Tipu had divided the country. (Capt.Murray to Mr.Farmer- I8th July I793.)

Mr.Farmer in his letter of IIth August I793 to Bengal, says: If Amara, Soolia and Yelusaviraseme were, previous to the war, placed under the collection of KhooshalNagar, Tipu would be of opinion that they ought to escape the claim of the Company, in the same manner as the countries of Nilleshwaram, Coombla and Eteel Aggra (?), situated to the southward of the Deela(?) and thought to be included in the acquisition of the Malabar country, had escaped the claim of the Company.

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Tipu, in his letter which must havebeen written about the same time, told Mr. Farmer that Amara and Soolia had been included in the country of the Bundar or port of Cooryal (Kodyal), and that Yelusavira-seeme stood, as usual, included in the talooka of Belur, and had for hundreds of years past of the country of Srirangapatna.

Mr. Taylor in his letter of I8th Sept.I793 to Mr.Duncan, admitted that Hyder did possess himself of these districts and that they were dismembered and part attached to other talooks, as conveniency of situation, on other motives might determine.

At a conference which took place between Capt. Murray and Coorga Raja at Malknad in Sept.I793, the Raja informed the Captain that Amara and Sulya remained in possession of the Rajas till about I2 years after Hyder conquered Bedanore country; about which time he became master of whole Coorga country above the Ghats, as well as those districts below. He admitted about this time Hyder attached Amara and Sulia to Kodial Bunder. He proceeded to mention the invasion of Coorg by Tipu, the captivity of more than I0,000 of the inhabitants and the division of Coorgs country into jagirs which were bestowed on the Sultan's dependants.

Adverting to the period when Hyder took Bedanore, the Raja in his letter of I7th July I792 informed the Chief of Tellicherry that at that period the conqueror examined the districts appertaining thereto, and found that Amara and Sulya formerly belonged to the Raja of Ikkeri, and were given to the Coorga, and that in the same manner Hyder ceded these two places to the Coorga Raja.

Great stress has been laid upon the state of affairs when hostilities commenced. The period of commencement of hostilities refers to three parties viz the Raja, Tipu and the Company.

Mr. Farmer in his letter of Aug.II, I793 to the Bengal Govt. confesses himself to be ignorant of the fact whether the districts were placed under the Collection of Khushal Nagar previous to the war; and, in the event of the question being solved in the affirmative, admits that these districts must, like the countries of Nillesgwaram, Coombla and Etul Agra(?), have escaped the claim of the Company.

Capt.Murray in his letter of I5th Sept. to Mr.Farmer, declared his firm belief that the Raja was in possession of the districts before the commencement of hostilities. Mr. Farmer in his letter of I7th Sept. I793 to Capt.Murray, in answer to the foregoing letter observed that the chief point to be ascertained was whether the Raja was in actual possession of these places about May I790, for there was no exact definition of what the Company were to restore him to, nothing more ought to be expected.

Mr. Taylor. Chief of Tellicherry, in his letter of I8th Sept. to Mr.Duncan observed that the Raja retook his own country before the war began, and invited the Company's troops into it.

In consequence of instructions received from Mr.Duncan, Capt. Murray put the question to the Raja, whether at the commencement of the hostilities, Amara and Soolia were annexed to Bundar Kodyal, and when Elusaviraseme was obtained by Hyder and Tipu, and annexed, as he said, to Belur. The Raja in reply informed Capt. Murray that he escaped from Peryapatna two or three years before (he ought perhaps to have said- months) the war commenced, that heathen returned to his country, where he was acknowledged as their Raja by every man in it and that the inhabitants of these districts were among the first who showed their attachment to him; so that it would be seen that these places were possessed and maintained by him long before the war. (Murray to Duncan-I9th Sept.I793).

Either the Raja or Mr.Taylor must have made a great mistake as to the period of his escape from Peryapatna; for the latter states it to have taken place SOON AFTER the breaking out of the war, when he and his brother returned to their own country where the Raja immediately found followers and adherents with whom he made head against Tipu's troops and recovered his country, the post of Mercara being the last from whence he dislodged them. (Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry to Malabar Commrs. 2nd April I793.)

It may be supposed by the commencement of war, Mr.Taylor intended the Sultan's attack on the Raja of Travancore's Lines on the 29th Dec.I789 and not April or May I790 when according to Mr. Farmer's letter of I7th Sept.(see above), the war must have commenced on the part of the Company. On referring to a letter of 2Ist June I792, from Mr.Taylor to the Bombay Govt. on the subject of Corringotta(?) which Tipu took upon him to cede to the Company, and were claimed by the French as an appendage of Mahei (Mahe ?) it appears that in April or May I790, the Company's troops attacked Tipu's troops posted in Corringotta, which was also in the neighbourhood of Tellicherry, and drove them out. The commencement of hostilities on the part of the Raja would appear to me when peace between the two periods of Dec.I789 and April I790- In the same letter Mr.Taylor observed that the first hostile measure on the part of the Company was the expulsion of Tipu's troops from every part of the Malabar country.

The question put by Mr.Farmer seems to be this: Did the Sultan intend to cede the territory which the Raja possessed at the period when the Company first invaded his dominions. It appears that the Raja obtained both Coorga and its dependencies by a revolution of the inhabitants in his favour, and by the process of his arms- thus the districts were reannexed by revolution and conquest and not by any act sanctioned by Tipu. It seems however to be argued on the side of the Raja that if Tipu did not intend to cede the whole of the dominions which had belonged to the Coorga family,

he ought to have signified it. On the other hand, it was argued that Tipu intended, by Talook Coorg, Coorga despoiled of its appendages and annexed to Srirangapatna.

Having given some account of the Raja's process of the termination of war, the oversight of the negotiators at Srirangapatna, as respects the interests of the Coorgs Raja, and other Malabar princes, the resentment expressed by the Raja on the occasion, and his determination not to give up the districts which ought to have been specifically mentioned in the treaty- the description of those districts- disposal of them at different periods of time and the Raja's title to them, also the engagements entered into between the Company and the Raja and the tribute imposed upon him, it will be proper to give a connected account of the events which followed the signature of the treaty of Srirangapatna- particularly the depredations committed by the Coorga people upon Tipu's subjects- the repeated invasion of the disputed districts by Tipu's people, the Company's transactions with the Raja, their communications with Tipu- survey of the districts and enquiries made for the purpose of ascertaining the Raja's titles to them- cautious conduct adopted by the Bengal Govt.

It has been observed that soon after the conclusion of the definitive Treaty of Peace, the Company's Govt. received complaints, both on the part of Tipu and the Coorg Raja, of outrages committed. The acts of violence imputed to the Coorg people seems to have been unauthorized by the Raja, neither is it asserted that the invasion of Amara and Soolya was sanctioned by Tipu. In consequence of the latter circumstance, various means were adopted for the purpose of ascertaining the Raja's title to the disputed districts and of affecting an amiable adjustment. The success which attended the investigation has been already setforth- some further particulars will now be introduced as amicable adjustment of differences was found to be impracticable. The districts were of trifling value, though two of them are naturally strong, as has been already noticed. Tipu does not appear to have been very anxious to obtain posession of them. He endeavoured to gain the Raja by false means, but failing in the experiment, and knowing what a determined character he had to deal with, he seems for a considerable time to have sat down quietly with the loss of the districts.

During the march from Srirangapatna to Madras, the aumils (or Amins ?) of Peryapatna complained of the conduct of the Coorga Raja. Lord Cornawallis wrote to the Raja in consequence, and the Raja wrote an explanatory (?) letter to the chief of Tellicherry. This letter was forwarded to Lord Cornawallis, and his Lordship in consequence expressed his hope that Tipu would be satisfied with the explanation given and refrain fron acts of violence. These particulars were communicated by Mr.Cherry to Tipu's vakeels- 2Ist April I792.

The Coorg Raja in his letter of 7th June I792 informed the Malabar Commissioners that Tipu was preparing to take Amara, Panje and Sulya by

by force and declared his determination to defend them but at the same time acknowledged the need of the Company's assistance. In his letter written apparently the same day to the Chief of Tellicherry, he declared his determination not to give up the districts although he should receive an order from the Company to surrender them. If Tipu should fire, he was resolved to return the fire.

In answer to their letters, the Chief of Tellicherry and the Commissioners proposed an amicable negotiation agreeable to the 7th article of the Treaty of Srirangapatna. The Raja was requested to invite Tipu to send deputies to Tellicherry. He was told that he ought to have explained the matter to Gen.Abrecromby who would have left troops in the districts in which case an officer belonging to the Company would have engaged in the discussion; that no troops could now be sent from Cannanore, They promised to represent the matter to Gen.Abrecromby.

The Chief of Tellicherry having transmitted copies of the Raja's letter of 7th June, and of their answer, the Commissioners addressed the Chief of Tellicherry in a letter dated the I3th June. They informed him that as the limits of Coorga were not ascertained in the treaty, no troops would with propriety be sent even admittingthe reasons to be favorable. They advised the Chief to write to Tipu's officer, and propose the deputation of proper persons to the boundaries.

A few days after the date of the Raja's letter of the 7th June I792, Tipu's people did actually invade the districts of Amara and Sulya. The Raja's letter to the Chief of Tellicherry announcing this event was dated the I7th of July I792. The primary object of this letter was the vindication of his character from the charges brought against him by the aumins (Amins ?) of Peryapatna, apparently previous to the invasion of Amara and Sulya by Tipu's people. It has been already observed that a copy of this letter was transmitted to Lord Cornawallis, and the Raja's account of his conduct communicated to Tipu.

The Raja began with relating an instance of his fidelity towards the British during the war, and the passage of Gen.Abrecromby through the Coorga country to Srirangapatna, where he arrived on I5th June I792. The Raja concluded that Tipu was enraged at his disappointment in not being able to reduce him and the progress of the Company's troops; and in revenge had written word that he had committed outrages in his territories. The Raja acknowledged to have received warning from Lord Cornawallis against the commission of any act which might give offence to Tipu, as peace was then secretly (?) concluded. He observed further that after the conclusion of peace, Gen.Abrecromby was in the Coorga country, and told him that he ought not to molest the territories of Tipu; promising him at the same time, that he should RETAIN QUIETLY HIS ANCIENT

POSSESSIONS FOR WHICH REASON he had relinquished certain places which he had acquired during the war AND RETAINED THE DISTRICTS OF AMARA AND SULYA, which he had possessed ever since the time of King of Ikkeri, being upwards of 200 years; that Tipu's people came to take these places by force- that he told them that these places had belonged to him for a long time past, and that, in the name of the Company, he put a stop to their proceedings; that Tipu's people however fired upon his people, and took possession of these places; that the Coorg people retired without returning the fire; and that, since Tipu's people had entered these places, they killed many of the inhabitants, and mutilated others by cutting offtheir ears and noses.

(These circumstances are more particularly adverted to in the Raja's letter of 8th July 1793 to Mr.Farmer, and in other places to which reference will be made. This invasion was followed by other invasions a few months afterwards.)

The Raja proceeded to inform Mr.Taylor respecting the disposal of Amara and Sulya by Hyder Ali when he took Bedanore.

Apparently about the end of October or beginning of November 1792 the Coorga people to the number of two or three thousand invaded the territory under the charge of aumin(Amin ?) of Arkulgoor (Arkalgode) and Kootoor (?), whose name was Muhammad Fakiruddin. This man charges them with having plundered and beat the inhabitants of a country yielding near 10,000 Rahetier (Ryots ?) with having destroyed the houses and actually killed, wounded and carried off several of the inhabitants and plundered and laid waste the country.

The letter of complaint was received at Madras about the 28th Nov. and forwarded to Bengal. An enquiry was instituted by the Bengal Govt. and in the mean while (2nd Jan.1793) a communication was made by Mr. Cherry ?- to Tipu's vakeels, than a Maizas ? with the hostages exculpating the Raja as to ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ any personal share in the blame.

Mr.Cherry informed the vakeels that Lord Cornawallis regarded this affair as a repetition of the former complaints from which it would appear that the people of the Ahmady Sirkar were the aggressor in attacking Amara and Sulia. Mr.Cherry says no more in vindication of what was past but promised that in future the Coorga Raja will not be suffered to give offence to Tipu; but at the same time assures the vakeels that the Raja will not be expected to relinquish his just claims to districts which have been in his family more than 200 years. (If the latter part of this message was dictated by Lord Cornawallis, as it may be presumed it was, his Lordship must have understood by talooka Coorga the possessions of the Coorga family. Probably he did not know that in Tipu's Jamabundy, talook Coorga meant Coorg, dismembered of its ancient appendages, and seluceed ?- under the Govt. of Srirangapatna; whereas the districts of Amara and Sulya were placed

under the Govt. of Mangalore. That this was the true state of the case, seems to have been the belief of the Malabar Commissioners, and Mr.Farmer, the Supervisor, although these gentlemen were fully disposed to admit the ancient rights of the Coorg family to the disputed districts.

Two ideas seem to have been confounded: viz. a territorial cession, and the restoration of a prince to his dominions. One party seems to have contemplated the one idea and the other party the other idea. Affixed to the term Talook Coorg, in the treaty of Sriranga-patna is the sum of 8,000 pagodas or Hoons. A question would arise as to the country from which the revenue was derived. The Governor-General who succeeded Lord Cornawallis wished the Raja to settle the matter with Tipu without the interference of the Company,)

At the close of his letter to the Vakeels, Mr.Cherry seems to have admitted that the common people might have committed depradations upon Tipu's subjects without the authority of the Raja. He promised that the lower class of people would not be countenanced in the commission of any outrages, and that the representation of Muhammad Fakir-uddin would be taken into consideration of the Bombay Govt.

To put a STOP to such proceedings, Mr.Cherry gave it as his opinion that Tipu ought to caution his own people not to enter into any disputes with the borderor, but rather to cultivate harmony and good neighbourhood.

I793 APRIL:- The next paper which follows in under the date, is the letter from Mr.Taylor, Chief of Tellichery to the Malabar Commissioners, dated 2nd April I793, and enclosing a copy of the treaty concluded with the Coorga Raja in Oct.I790 and the certificate given by Gen. Abrecromby to the Raja on the 3Ist March I793.

Mr.Taylor began with commending the Raja for the fidelity which he had manifested towards the Company on all occasions- gave an account of the Raja's escape from confinement soon after the breaking out of the war- his return to his own country- revolution of the inhabitants in his favour- expulsion of Tipu's troops- overtures made by him to the Chief of Tellicherry- conclusion of a treaty in Oct. I790 at which time he was in the actual possession of his country- assistance afforded by the Raja to the Company's troops- tributes imposed upon the Raja by the Company at the conclusion of the peace of Srirangapatna.

By virtue of the treaty of Oct.I790, the Raja's family was provided with a safe asylum at Tellicherry during the war- the Raja was to become ally of the Company and to be rendered independent of Tipu. The Company to have preference as to commerce, and no other European nation to be suffered to interfere. No mention of tribute.

The certificate given by Gen.Abrecromby, between whom and the Raja, there subsisted a mutual esteem, was dated 3Ist March I793, a day or two previous to the General's departure for Bombay.

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In this certificate, the General acknowledges that prior to the commencement of the war, the Raja had recovered the great part of the Coorga country, and that he afterwards conquered the remainder of it, without the assistance of the Company- that he offered to assist them- that his offers were accepted and a treaty concluded as afore-mentioned- that the Raja entered most heartily into the war and rendered the most essential service to the Bombay army- that from the commencement to the conclusion of the war, he continued most firmly attached to the interest of the Company not withstanding the repeated attempts of Tipu to seduce him, and that it was the noble and disinterested conduct of the Raja that interested Lord Cornawallis so much in his favour as to create in his Lordship's mind a determination to render him entirely independent of Tipu and to extend to him and his country the Company's protection. The certificate further states that numberless objections presented themselves but were over-ruled and that the tribute amounting to 8000 Hoons said to have been annually paid to Tipu from the Coorga country, was transferred to the Company- that the Raja readily agreed to pay the sum of 8000 Huns per annum as a consideration for the friendship and protection of the Company, although he declared that Tipu never received that sum from his country, and he afterwards objected to the payment of any tribute, and finally that it was never intended on the part of the Company to interfere in the inetrior management of the Raja's country, trusting that a prince possessing the most liberal sentiments, would make the happiness of his people his constant study.

(The Hoons were reckoned at Rs.3 each.)

Inc Consequence of the representation made by the Bengal Govt., Gen.Abrecromby called upon the Coorg Raja to answer to the charges brought against his subjects by Tipu's officers. In justification of his conduct the Raja addressed Gen.Abrecromby on the 2nd April 1793.

He began with assuring the General that since the peace, his people had never gone into Tipu's country to plunder it, and that, in confirmity to his advice, he had given up the village of Ergoor (or Eigoor ?) although it belonged to him.(the Raja) He admitted however that the Sultan had just cause to complain though he had the blame on those who did not deserve it; and entered into a partial explanation of the circumstances which had recently occurred. This explanation appears to relate solely to the affair complained of by the Amin of Arkalgood and Kootoor ?, and not to the outrages said to have been committed between the months of March and June within the limits subject to the jurisdiction of the Amins of Peryapatna. To the charges preferred by these people he replied on 17th July 1792, reasion ?, and asserted that the acts of violence complained of were perpetrated by the army previous to the conclusion of peace, that is, grievances are felt in Feb.1792, when Gen,Abrecromby marched for Srirangapatna, whereas the complaint was preferred during the march of Lord Cornwallis's army from Srirangapatna to Madras, which his Lordship seems to have reached about the middle of June 1792. Lord Cornawallis was so far from entertaining

the opinion that the outrages were committed as early as the period when the army marched into Srirangapatna , that he expressed his belief that the acts of violence complained of were committed in consequence of the invasion of Amara and Sulia by Tipu's men which took place in June. This again appears to be an error of a few days on the other side. Had the Raja in his letter of 8th July I792, imputed to the army acts of violence committed on its return from Srirangapatna after the conclusion of peace, the case would seem more probable, and the dates of offence and complaint would more nearly accord. Similar excesses appear to have been committed by the Maratha Army under Parasurama Bhau on its march homewards and the Sultan's Beyde ? cavalry even charged with having plundered the allied armies. In the aforesaid letter of I7th July, the Raja acknowledged that after the conclusion of peace he was admonished by Lord Cornawallis by letter and by Gen.Abrecromby by word not to 'molest' the territories of Tipu or commit any act which might give offence to Tipu whether this administration was given in consequence of any complaint made by Tipu's officers or not, is not mentioned.

Battery?

To proceed to the Raja's explanation of the outrage more recently complained of, he observed that Tipu complained that Coorga ~~xxxxx~~ ~~xy~~ Raja's people were plundering below the Ghats. He assured Gen. Abrecromby that it was not his people but those belonging to the Burigah (?) Raja and Ramunt Ursoo (Ramavarma Arasu), the Coombla Raja. He observed that the latter had a house at Tellicherry and received a pension of Rs,200 per month but as he considered this sum to be insufficient for his maintenance, he went upon a plundering expedition against Tipu's subjects. At first setting out, he requested that the Raja would permit him to pass through his country, but on being refused, he made his way through Nileshwaram country, being attended by five or six hundred free-booters. He took up his abode in the jungle, and from thence made inroads into Tipu's country which being close to Coorga. Tipu imputed the blame to him and his subjects. The Raja had heard that some of Tipu's people had seized the Buriagah Raja. As to the Coombla Raja, the Raja of Coorga was of opinion that it would be advisable for Gen.Abrecromby to make enquiry after him.

Having entered into a justification of his own conduct, the Raja renewed his complaints against Tipu's people who were at this time plundering the districts of Amara, Sulia and Elusaviraseme for which he said, had belonged to his family for 200 years, and of whose conduct he took no notice. (Lt.Emmat's letter to Capt.Murray of IIth Sept.I793 notices acts of violenec committed subsequent to the invasion of the districts in June I792, and prior to the ~~invasions~~ incursion now complained of.)

By the 3rd of April, Gen.Abrecromby addressed the Malabar Commissioners on the subject of Tipu's complaints and transmitted several papers for ~~this~~ their information. He hoped that they would use their endeavour to investigate the past, and guard against any future

disturbances on the frontiers. He informed that orders were now sent to the Commanding Officer on the coast to employ the surveyors, and use every means in his power to obtain an insight into the real state of the frontiers and communicate to the Commissioners the information acquired and that the Raja was called upon to deliver an answer in writing to the Sultan's complaints.

It is remarkable that Gen.Abrecromby, in a letter dated 26th March 1793 forwarding an extract of a letter from Lt.Emmett, made it appear to the Commissioners that no such outrage as were alleged is Tipu's memorial against the Raja, had taken place since the peace. This information was communicated by the Commissioners to MR.Farmer, the Supervisor of Malabar, in their letter of 21st June following.

The Raja of Coorga was present at Cannanore on the 31st March 1793, when Gen.Abrecromby signed the certificate and mentioned there some days during which period, he conversed with Mr.Duncan. The conference took place on the 3rd April when the Raja returned to Tellicherry, from where he was about to proceed to his own country.

Mr.Duncan began his minutes with observing that the Raja was displeased at the ~~strange~~ change which had recently taken place in the circumstances, and objected to the payment of any tribute as the price of the Company's protection. He had conquered his country without assistance from the Company, therefore, was of opinion that the obligation existed on their side; and as far the future, he professed to entertain no apprehensions. This country had been desolated, but was now recovering, and increasing in population, but not sufficiently recovered to admit of the payment of tribute. For these reasons, Mr.Duncan agreed to excuse him a year's tribute, that is the tribute of 1792-93. He gave it as his opinion that it could be prudent to conciliate this Raja, lest he should become an enemy. This subject has been already introduced by way of comment on the certificate.

Mr.Duncan having admonished the Raja on the subject of Tipu's complaints, the Raja promised to avoid future disputes with that Chief; at the same time, he declared his resolution not to allow Tipu's people to encroach upon him in any great degree without assistance. He recommended the appointment of Harriarras (?) on the part of the Commissioners, to act as spies, intimating that these people would report who were the 'Agyerpoors (?). From this and other circumstances, Mr. Duncan apprehended that the Raja would not at this time, readily recognise in the establishment of other modes of control over him or any permanent nation in his country. As to the Coombla Raja, the principal cause of disturbances complained of by Tipu, he offered to seize on this man and deliver him up to Tipu or even to kill him. Mr.Duncan warned him against any such rash proceedings, and required the Raja to send him to the British, if he should enter the Coorga country in a hostile manner, and fall into the Raja's hands.

At the close of this Minutes, Mr.Duncan gives a list of Coorg months received from the Raja: viz.

(The names of I2 Indian months are listed here)

The next Article which presents itself is a letter from the Commissioners to Mr.Farmer, the Supervisor, dated 2Ist June I793. This letter begins with noticing the communication made by Gen.Abrecromby on the 26th March I793 the substance of which has already been introduced.

In the course of this month (June), the Commissioners had received two complaints from the Coorga Raja representing the encroachments made by Tipu into the districts of Amara, Sulya and Elusaviraseeme. In Sept.I792, the Raja addressed the Commissioners and informed them that, for the sake of peace, he had relinquished the districts of Amara and Sulya. Now, indeed he complained that Tipu had invaded his districts. The Commissioners did not see how the Raja would acclaim them after having relinquished them.

(Perhaps, this affair may be explained thus: For the sake of peace, the Raja suffered- Tipu's people to take possession, for the time being without assistance but not intend to yield them in perpetuity.)

The Commissioners a copy of the Coorg Raja's first complaint, as entered in their proceedings of 2nd June I793- of Mr.Duncan's last letter to the Raja, and the Commissioners' letter written in consequence to Lt.Col.Hartley, and the information received in consequence from Lt.Emmatt, which last was not so clearcas to afford satisfaction as to the grounds of dispute. For this reason, the Commissioners wished that Mr.Farmer would write to Coorga Raja, or direct Mr.Galley, the Northern Superintendant, to advice him that a gentleman (Capt.Murray) would be deputed, and that he would be accompanied by Lt.Emmatta who was an officer in the Corps of Engineers, into that part of the country to adjust the dispute in question, as well as any other that might exist relative to boundaries. Capt. Murray was considered to be the fit person to settle the business- he was well-acquainted with the Raja's character and would use his utmost endeavour to bring about a good understanding between all parties. It would be Capt.Murray's first business of he having conversed with the Raja on the subject to invite Tipu's officers to a conference, and if he should refuse to attend, to mark out the boundary agreeably to the Raja's directions. It was understood that the Madras Govt. would write to Tipu inviting him to depute proper persons to meet Capt.Murray.

The Commissioners' letter of the 25th June to Mr.Farmer is worthy of attention. The Coorga country was considered to be the most important of all the line of frontiers on the Western side of India; and it was desirable to bring the Raja under the control of the Company: the present predicament in which the Raja stood seemed to afford a protest for stationing a Military force in the disputed districts, and it was intended to make a proposition to that effect, but should the Raja refuse to accede to the proposal, the propriety

of appointing a Resident was to be insisted on, whether a native of Britain or India.

Mr.Farmer last no time in forwarding the views of the Commissioners- his letter of instruction to Capt.Murray was dated the 27th June, and was accompanied by a letter of the same date to the Coorg Raja and copies of the Commissioners' letters of 2Ist and 25th of the same month, also extracts from the proceedings on the 28th March and 2nd June.

In his letter of instruction, Mr.Farmer noticed the alienation of the 3 disputed districts, and the annexation of the original Coorga country to the territory- more immediately subject to the Govt. of Srirangapatna. He was well persuaded under the name of Talooka Coorga; On the other hand he was severe that under the denomination of Talooka Coorga, the Raja contemplated the ancient dominions of the prince of Coorga. He was also of the opinion that Lord Cornawallis entertained the same idea, but not being aware of the dismemberament, omitted to stipulate for the inclusion of three districts. Mr.Farmer directed Capt. Murray to tell the Raja that it was an unfortunate circumstance that no well-informed person was present on his part when the minutes of peace were settled; that by ~~the~~ a similar mistake and negligence on their part the Raja of Coombla, Eteel Agra (?), Bengur(?) and Nilleshwaram, had been entirely precluded from the protection of the Company which was fully intended to have been given them by obtaining as the negotiators thought, the whole of the Malabar country from Dilla (?) southward; but when all matters were settled, if we found these countries were exluded; as having been separated from the Calicut Kutchery and placed under Kushal-Nagoor as Amara and Sulia were,that this was wholly immediable after the signature of the treaty, for which reason the Raja ought also to reconcile himself to his disappointment- that no opportunity however would be lost completely to reinstate him in his former possessions, anterior to the requisition of the districts, but that, in the interim, the Company could not demand from Tipu what he did not grant by the treaty; and therefore would not defend such parts from the efforts of Tipu's officers to resume them. The Raja and his people knowing how Tipu had divided the country would be able to point out exactly the limits of talooka Coorga subordinate immediately to Srirangapatna.

Capt. Murray was directed to hold forth a different language to Tipu's officer, telling him that by the term talook Coorga, ought to be understood the usual possession of the Coorga Raja and his family- Lt. Ematt of the Engineers would accompany Capt. Murray.

Mr.Farmer informed the Raja that by the appointment of Gen.Abrecromby, Govt. of Bombay, the full power and arrangement of the countries ceded by Tipu in this quarter, would devolve to him after the departure of the Bengal Commissioners, (Duncan and Bodden) which would even take place, as they had completed their business. These gentlemen had transmitted the letter which they had received from the Raja, bearing date

13th Wyshaak, Wednesday (about May). Mr.Farmer expressed his surprise to find that the Raja now claimed the districts of Amara and Soolia which according to the tenor of his former letter to Mr. Farmer, he appeared to have relinquished. Mr. Farmer reminded the Coorg Raja that when it was prepared that Tipu should be invited to send a deputy, he (the Raja) objected to the measure, and that in consequence of this refusal, the boundaries were fixed according to the description given by the Coorga people only. Finally, Mr. Farmer expressed his hope that matters would be settled amicably between the Raja and Tipu's officers through the means of Capt.Murray who was the Raja's friend.

In addition to the foregoing letter, Capt. Murray was charged with a letter from Mr.Farmer to Tipu, dated 29th June. This letter was kept back a long time.(if it was sent at all.)

Mr.Farmer informed the Sultan that Gen.Abrecromby had appointed him Supervisor of the whole of the Company's possessions in the province of Malabar. He then recited the Coorg Raja's complaint of the invasion of the countries of Amara and Sulia and Yelusaviraseme which for many hundred years had formed part of Coorga country and therefore ceded to the Company; and the acts of violence committed by Tipu's officer- These acts are specifically mentioned such as plundering the inhabitants, driving off the cattle and carrying away the ryots with their families. Mr. Farmer imputed these evils to the ignorance of the officer; he therefore, deputed Capt.Murray, a prudent man, to adjust this matter with the Sultan's officers in that quarter, and expressed his hope that Tipu would depute a proper person to meet him- that the matter might be settled amicably.

Mr.Farmer proceeded to inform the Sultan that the complaints made by the Vakeels had been investigated, and the result of the enquiries communicated to the Govt. of Madras, and gave it as his opinion that the best way to prevent such disputes in future would be TO FIX THE BOUNDARIES, and that this was the object of Capt. Murray's deputation.

Mr.Farmer's letter of 27th June 1793 seems to have been sent to the Raja previous to the departure of Capt.Murray. The Raja's answer is dated the 30th Jeyshta or 18th July.

He began with noticing the surprise expressed by Mr.Farmer at the repetition of his claim to Amara and Sulia after having professed to give them up; and proceeded to inform the Supervisor that when Gen.Abrecromby descended the Ghats, he told him that if Tipu should enter his country it would be proper for him to write to Mr.Farmer at Calicut who would in consequence of the Raja's complaint remonstrate with Tipu, and that if he did not write to Tipu, he would write to the Raja advising him to take care of his country and make the BUNDOBAST of it.

The Raja proceeded to inform Mr.Farmer that Tipu's fellows

came to make disturbance in Amara and Sulia, and he ordered his people to make resistance but ~~to~~ retire to the other side; and promised to write to Calicut from whom he hoped to receive an answer in 8 days; and that he had by way of encouraging his people, told them that the invaders, whatever they might carry away, would not be able to carry away the ground. He observed further that the banditti, after staying 2 or 3 days, went off in as great a hurry as they came, and that at the time of their departure, Mr.Farmer's letter arrived, of which circumstance he had apprised his people, and invited them, to return to the districts. That in his letter to Calicut he had requested Mr. Farmer to write to Tipu warning him not to create disturbance or else that he would send him a plain answer telling him that it would be proper for him to take care of; and make the BANDOBUST of his own country- that Mr.Farmer had accordingly written to him advising him to take care of what belonged to him and not give up any part and make the BANDOBUST of it, as there was no occasion to give up what belonged to him. That in the first letter which the Raja wrote in which he was said to have relinquished the districts of Amara and Sulya, there were fifty hundred things before and fifty hundred things the paragraph which has been so construed, but that Mr.Farmer paid no attention to them.

The Raja observed further that Mr.Farmer had informed him in his letter that the Engineer had told him(the Raja) that Tipu's people and his (?) should both be present at the setting of the boundaries in order that matter might be done by mutual consent "but that to this he made objections he would find people on his own part, but Tipu was no friend of his nor of his family, nor living under his authority."

The Raja continued to observe that for the sake of putting an end to disputes, the Engineer came to examine the boundaries and settle differences, that Tipu's fellows came to surround him, that the Engineer told them that he was an English Sirdar come to inspect the boundaries, and to do justice to both sides, but that they refused to listen ~~hearken (?)~~ to him, and abused him and fired at him. The Raja appealed to Mr.Farmer whether his people, if they should invite these fellows to a conference, were likely to experience better treatment. He thought it very unfair that Mr.Farmer who had on all occasions blamed when he preferred complaints against Tipu's people, should suffer this outrageous behaviour to pass without censure. The Raja then proceeded to notice the deputation of Capt.Murray which had been determined upon in consequence of his (the Raja) request to be assisted in settling the business. He thought it remarkable that he should so express himself as to this, that he looked upon this business as the Raja's concern exclusively and not the concern of the Company. Having, as he said, the favour of his God, he had no cause of apprehension. Formerly, he asked for no assistance from any quarter, and had hitherto achieved great actions by himself without assistance, neither did he now, nor in his recent letters, crave assistance; for,"he knew all the world, and was much in favour with his God". The letters which he had written were

were letters of information which was communicated in the way of friendship, by the advice of Gen.Abrecromby, and this information was not attended to- the former and latter parts of what was written in his answer were not attended to- but two words between were observed blame rested on him. Mr.Farmer was determined to find fault with everything he wrote or said, therefore, it was difficult for him to know what to write or say. The Raja wrote this letter for the purpose of letting Mr.Farmer know what might happen on the morrow

Amara and Sulia were not the new acquisitions; the stones that were placed on the boundaries one or two hundreds years past in the days of the Eikarean (Ikkeri ?) remained still in their places. He never quitted his bounds to enter Tipu's dominions; not a length of cow's hoof, nor would he suffer his districts to be taken from him, as long as he and his people should continue to exist. The low estimation in which the Raja held Mr.Farmer appears by the terms in which the latter concluded viz:"this you are to understand properly"

On the 6th July 1793, Capt. Murray arrived at Virarajendrapet on his way to Nalknad, the Coorg Raja's capital, from thence he addressed Mr.Farmer on the 9th of the month, informing that, immediately on his arrival, he despatched his and Mr.Duncan's letters with one from himself proposing an interview- that no answer had been receive but the foregoing letter was sent to be forwarded to Mr. Farmer. Virarajendrapet is 7 miles from the top of the Ghat- and is said to have been a new village, and it is 16 miles from Nalknad. This circumstance leads to a supposition that it may have borrowed its name from the Raja.(Alery Virarajendra).

Capt.Murray wrote to Mr.Farmer again on the 11th July informing him that he had again addressed the Raja requesting an interview. He was of opinion that the Raja was jealous as to the admission of strangers into his capital. The Raja wrote to him a word that he should be glad to see him after the rain should be little abated. The road to Nalknad was impossible, the intermediate country consisting of marshes and jungles which according to Lt.Emmatt's account were very difficult to pass even in dry weather.

On the 13th July Capt.Murray left Virarajendrapet and arrived in Nalknad, and on the succeeding day he had an interview with the Raja- the indignation was greatly existed by the insinuation of his having promised to give up Amara and Sulya, and of his having neglected to send a Vakeel to assist at the negotations at Srirangapatna. He was so transported with anger, that the tears came into his eyes. As to district, he declared that he had never promised to give them up, and as to the omission of the ancient appendages of Coorga in the treaty of peace with Tipu Sultan, he regarded it as a breach of faith on the part of the Company. He boasted of the strength of his country and the courage of his people, and declared that rather than submit to th

the violation of his rights he was determined to defend them to the last, and in the event of being worsted by a powerful adversary to burn and destroy everything and die in the last Dyke. He exalted the superiority of Sepoys over European soldiers, the former, he observed, were capable of making long marches while the latter spent with fatigue, fell down in numbers on the road. He decalred that he had never failed in his engagements whereas the British hast not fulfilled one promise out of ten. The next day, when the Raja discussed with Capt.Murray in private, he was more cool. He spoke of his feats, his imprisonment and hair-breadth escape etc. This information is contained in a public and private letter of Capt.Murray, both dated the 18th July 1793. The foregoing is the substance of the private letter. The purport of the public letter will now be given, whether is related to the conference of the 14th and 15th July or the 14th only.

The Raja declared to Capt.Murray that he was greatly disappointed, as to the support which he hoped to have experienced from the British, but was willing to forget the past and fulfil with fidelity the engagements which he had entered into. He professed to entertain a personal regard for Gen.Abrecromby, and acknowledged to have received many marks of friendship from him. He observed that the General had felt it necessary to apologize for the indefinite manner in which the Coorg country had been described in the treaty of Srirangapatna. He exultingly exhibited to Capt.Murray the certificates which Gen.Abrecromby had given him on the 31st March 1793 and which was a most honourable testimony of the Raja's faithful services to the Bombay army during the late war.

Capt.Murray asked the Raja if he approved of sending Mr.Farmer's letter to Tipu, dated 29th June. The Raja advised the Captain to wait a little longer as Tipu's people had been quiet lately. He declared that he not trespassed upon Tipu but that Tipu's people had plundered him several times. He did not lay the blame on the Sultan and was willing to believe THAT HE HAD NOT AUTHORIZED THOSE ACTS OF VIOLENCE.

With respect to Amara and Sulya he declared that they formed as much a part of the Coorga country as any district contained in it for ages past, that he never intended to relinquish them, and his letter of 6th May to Mr.Duncan from which such an intention had been inferred was misunderstood. (It must be observed that the document is not to be found in this collection).

The Raja proceeded to give an account of the districts and of his title to them- the particulars have been given already in the proper place- and drew a comparison between the situation in which he stood and the situation of the Raja of Coombla, Wallet Agra etc (?). Capt. Murray subjoined a description of Elusaviraseme and took note of the infertility and military importance of Amara and Sulya.

He professed his readiness to believe the Raja's assertions- he described him as a man plain and direct in his language and conduct, and without deception- of an ardent, flighty and rather watchful than

than jealous temper- sometimes carried away by passion- mild, liberal and humane in his Govt. and apparently possessing the entire affection of his people.

After such a display of the Raja's charaater, Capt.Murray dared not touch upon the subject of a military post or the establishment of a Residency in the Raja's dominions. Previous to taking leave, he requested permission to erect a temporary shed at Virarajendrapet. To this the Raja agreed, and nothing else was said upon the subject of Englishmen residing in his country.

Capt.Murray left Nalknad on the I7th July and ~~retire~~ returned to Virarajendrapet. On receiving the Raja's letter of the 8th July Mr.Farmer replied to the contents in a letter to Capt.Murray dated the I9th July. The Supervisor observed that the Raja seemed to assert in his letter to Mr.Duncam, that in a letter to Major Dow and himself(Mr.Farmer), he was expressly warranted to keep Amara and Sulya. Of this, said the Supervisor, nothing appeared in the records In his letter however to Mr. Farmer, the Raja seemed to ground his warranty to defend those districts on the general instructions from the Commissioners to him to make the BANDOBUST of his own countries. Deciding therefore that Amara and Sulya to be his, said Mr.Farmer, the Raja professed to have asked within the line of their warranty.

After expressing his regret on account of the imperfection of the treaty, Mr.Farmer proceeded to inform Capt.Murray that in the enclosed letter of this date to the Raja he forbade all communication with the Sultan, except through him (Capt.Murray), and had given him to understand that if a Vakeel should fruitlessly arrive from Tipu's country, he (the Raja) must abide by the consequences. Finally Mr.Farmer expressed his fear that the Raja would not suffer his letter of 29th June to be sent to Tipu.

Capt.Murray's reply to this letter is dated 26th July. He informed Mr.Farmer that no suitable occasion had presented itself for opening the negotiation with Tipu, and expressed his wish that the letter to the Raja might be modified.

That letter was written in answer to the Raja's letter of the 8th July and dated on the I9th of the same month. He represented the Raja that the invasion of Amara and Sulya indicated a belief on the part of Tipu that those districts were not ceded to the Company whereas the Raja expressed his right and write (?) to them, that agreeably to the stipulation of the treaty- a negotiation ought to take place. That according to the Raja's desire Capt.Murray had been deputed for the purpose of conducting the negotation, and that he, Mr.Farmer, had requested that Tipu would send a deputy- that if Tipu should fail to comply with this proposal the matter would be laid before Lord Cornawallis, but if on the other hand, Tipu should send a deputy and Raja should hold communication with him without the assistance of Capt.Murray, Tipu would construe that circumstance as a dereliction of the Raja's cause on the part of the Company. Mr.

Farmer reminded the Raja of the difficulty with which Tipu was prevailed upon to cede the Coorg country, and requested that he would at all times conduct himself so as to merit and ensure the good wishes of all the English gentlemen for which purpose it was essential that he should refrain from all acts of hostility towards Tipu unless he should obtain the consent of the Company's Govt. Finally Mr. Farmer expressed the hope that through the mediation of Capt.Murray the affair in dispute would be brought to an amicable adjustment. (Capt.Murray wished that this letter might be modified.)

On the 30th July 1793, Mr.Farmer replied to Capt.Murray's letters of the 11th, 18th and 21st of the month. The Supervisor gave the Captain a great credit for the temper, skill and ability with which he had managed the Raja, andpromised to recommend him to the Bombay Govt. He observed that the Raja appeared to mistake the purport of the letter addressed to Tipu, and to think that it tended to bring him right to Amara and Sulya into discussion which he might wish to avoid. He was of opinion that this matter ought to be settled previous to the departure of Lord Cornwallis from India, because he would tell what he understood by the Talooka Coorg; (and he did not doubt that his Lordship meant to comprise the whole of real Coorg country). Mr.Farmer directed Capt.Murray to tell the Raja that so far from admitting Tipu's right to Amara and Sulia, he had in the letter afore-mentioned, complained to the Sultan of the encroachment of his officers on those districts, and Capt.Murray was to tell the Raja, that he had been deputed for the purpose of ascertaining the extremities of the districts, and not the Raja's title to the districts; and if Tipu should assume a peremptory tone, the matter would be referred to Lord Cornawallis, backed with all the strong arguments urged by Coorg, but that the possession of those districts would not be yielded up without such discussion, which in fairness, he doubted not, would end favourably to the Raja.

(It will be observed that Mr.Farmer in his instruction to Capt. Murray, dated 27th June, gave it as his opinion that Tipu added the original Coorga country united to Srirangapatna and despoiled of Amara, Sulia and Yelusaviraseme and that the Raja would be obliged to sit down with the loss of those districts.)

Mr. Farmer's letter concludes in these terms:

You may remind him (the Raja) that the sons of Tipu are still with us, that he sees the power of the king of France destroyed and its last visible remains in this country falling under our superior power; that impressed with this, he has even offered us his and against the French; that if Tipu therefore questions the right of Coorg to Amara and Sulia, the present seems a fit hour to stamp for ever by discussion the seal and impression of right as to Amara and Sulia, after which, he may if he wants it even demand our aid, should they in future be molested.

Since writing the above letter as it would appear, Mr. Farmer received Capt.Murray's letter of 26th July. It was Mr.Farmer's wish that Capt.Murray would endeavour to prevail on the Raja to give consent that

the letter should be sent to Tipu. The letter was accordingly sent.

Captain Murray replied to this letter on the 5th Aug. and signified his intention to write immediately to the Raja to propose another meeting at Nalknad and to inform him that a negotation would be opened with Tipu.

This letter seems to have reached Mr.Farmer on the IOth of the month, and on the following day he addressed the Governor-General-in-Council by desire of the Commissioners and transmitted sundry papers for his Lordship's information.

The Supervisor began with representing the Raja's ancient title to the 3 districts, his unwillingness to suffer any discussion relative thereto, and his determination to resist by force of arms any attempt on the part of Tipu and even the Company, if they were so disposed, to deprive him of them. Mr.Farmer proceeded to give an account of the invasion of the districts and of the acts of violence committed by Tipu's officers. He would not believe that these people would have dared to act in such an outrageous manner without orders received from their master; nor could he be persuaded that Tipu would have authorised such a proceeding had he not been convinced that these places had escaped the claim of the Company in the same manner as the countries of the Raja of Nileshwaram, Coombla and Ettel Agra (?) situated to the southward of Deala(?), and therefore thought to be included in the acquisition of the Malabar country; for these reasons he was inclined to credit the assertion that the districts had been placed under the collection of Kushalmagar previous to the war. He then noticed the conciliatory measure adopted by the Commissioners in deputing Capt.Murray, and the difficulty with which that gentleman prevailed on the Raja to suffer his (Farmer's) letter to be forwarded to Tipu.

Under these circumstances,Mr.Farmer found it necessary to ask for instructions as to the conduct he should adopt, and in particular in the event of Tipu's returning an unsatisfactory answer, whether in such a case he should be authorised publicly to warrant Coorg to maintain these countries; should they be again invaded, and to offer him the aid of the Company's troops, should his own be insufficient. In the latter case, it seemed to be indispensably necessary in the opinion of the Supervisor that some person should be present on the part of the Company to ascertain the invasions had really been made or previously to warn every person advancing for that purpose that his invasion should be resisted.

About the 2nd Sept. I793, Mr.Farmer received an answer from Tipu to the letter afore-mentioned.

It is remarkable that in this reply, the Sultan instead of pleading a recent alienation of the 3 districts, sought to justify his claim by withholding an acknowledgement of their ever having been granted or ceded to the Coorg family and by affixing to his title a very early date. He insisted that Amara and Sulya had for 5 or 6

centuries, or even more, been, and remained, included in the country of the Bunder port of Kodyal, and that Elusaviraseme stood, as usual, included in the talooka of Belur, and had, for hundreds of years past, been, and made, part of the country of Srirangapatna; and that the said talookas had accordingly, from ancient times, been held by the Ahmady Sirkar; For these reasons, he was astonished that Mr. Farmer should, at the instance of the wicked and interested people; have written without ascertainment of the fact.

The Sultan's answer to the charge of depredations and other acts of violence and cruelty committed by his officers, is very curious. He did not attempt to deny the charge of having invaded the districts, nor did he promise forbearence in time to come, but confined his observations to the Coorga country enclosed in the Company's Sirkar, and the sentence is so worded as to show that he did not consider the districts as forming a part of Coorga. As to what he was pleased to call the Coorga country, he promised that his people should never infringe upon it. He observed that as the truest and firmest friendship was established between him and the Company, and as the Coorg was enclosed in English Co.,'s Sircar, the Supervisor might rest satisfied that the servants of the Ahmady Sirkar would never enter therein; placing full reliance on which, it would be proper for him to treat with contempt the false operations of the people of Coorga, and paying attention to the treaty of peace, act in such a manner as that the friendship existing between the two Governments might daily increase.

Of this letter, Mr. Farmer sent a copy to Bengal, also a copy of further instructions sent to Capt. Murray. This letter does not appear among the documents which have been selected, but the purport of it was to call upon the Raja for further explanation, as may be inferred from Capt. Murray's letter of 6th Sept. to Mr. Farmer from Virarajendrapet in answer to the same. Mr farmer's letter was dated 2nd Sept. and enclosed a translation of Tipu's letter. It was the intention of Capt. Murray to appoint a meeting with the Raja and call upon him and his people to further explanation. He considered the Raja to be with little exception, the only intelligent man in the country- he gave it as his opinion that it would be proper, at the recommendation of the Raja during the conference of july, to request Mr. Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry, to question some of the Bedanore and Mangalore people, several of whom resided at that settlement.

Capt. Murray foresees very great difficulties in the accomplishment of any settlement between the Raja and the Sultan, and he was of opinion that it would not be one of the least to KEEP THE RAJA FROM BREAKING OUT AGAIN.

LT. Emmitt was employed in surveying the Raja's dominions and in making necessary enquiries respecting the acts of violence committed both by the Coorga people and Tipu's officers at different periods subsequent to the peace of Srirangapatna. Mention is made of a letter written by him to Gen. Abrecromby about March 1793 and of another letter

addressed to the Commissioners on the 4th April following; but these documents are not to be found in the selection.

About the beginning of July when Capt.Murray was sent on his deputation, Lt.Emmatt accompnaied him in the capacity of a surveyor- having prosecuted his enquiries he addressed Capt.Murray on 11th Sept. from Virarajendrapet the object of this letter was to communicate to his colleague some further circumstances of information that occurred to him during the survey of Coorg Raja's bounadries, in addition to what he communicated to the Commissioners under date 4th April 1793. During his survey of the borders of the small districts of Amara and Sulia, some of the oldest people of the Coorga country, by desire of the Raja, pointed out to him the exact limits of those districts as formerly possessed by the Coorga Raja. These people showed Lt.Emmatt the remains of the houses that had long given them shelter, and with tears in their eyes, particularly described all the little places that had formerly nourished their domestic happiness. Others led him to the places where their near relatives had been lately murdered by banditts of Tipu's people living on the borders of Sulia and Amara. Four of these Lt.Emmatt found, who had been hanged in Nov.1792 for having refused to quit their villages and go over to Tipu's. There were 13 others, a little without the Raja's boundaries who had also lately been hanged for the same reason.

During the whole of his journey round and across the aforesaid districts, Lt.Emmatta made many enquiries of the people respecting the length of time they had been under the Coorg Raja, all of whom answered that king and their ancestors had inhabited them under the Coorg Raja longer than they had any recollection of, and that when children, they had been told that Sulia and Amara had been under the Coorg Raja, at least 200 years. With respect to Elusaviraseme, the same proofs occurred of its being under, and the property of, the Coorg Raja.

On the 4th Sept. the day before Mr.Duncan left Calicut on his return to the North, that gentleman addressed letter to Capt.Murray which must have reached him, on or about the 6th of the month, and being at that time at Virajendrapet. The object of that letter was to obtain a knowledge of the Raja's history so far as to point out how long the present Race (?) had been in the government and how they acquired the districts and whether Amara and Sulia were annexed to Bunder Kodyal at the commencement of hostilities; and when Yelusaviraseme was obtained by Hyder and Tipu, and annexed, as he said, to Belur. The result of Capt. Murray's enquiries was to be forwarded to Madras, whither Mr.Duncan was about to proceed on his way home, to Benares.

Capt.Murray repaired to Nalknad, the Raja's capital, soon after the receipt of this letter; left on the 11th, and reached Tellichery on the 14th of the month. This letter of the 19th Sept. to Mr.Duncan and of the 15th and 19th to Mr. Farmer contain the results

of his conferences with the Raja and with the people of Tellicherry.

It will be necessary in the first instance to take notice of Capt. Murray's letter to Mr.Farmer written on the I5th Sept. being the day after he arrived at Tellicherry from Nalknad where he had held several conferences with the Raja, and of Mr.Farmer's answer dated I7th of the month.

Capt.Murray began with informing the Supervisor that soon after the date of his letter of the 2nd Sept. he proceeded to Nalknad where he had several meetings with the Raja, and that the Raja was enraged, though not surprised to find Tipu persisting to claim the 3 districts in dispute.

The Captain (Murray) declared his firm belief that the Raja was in possession of the districts before the commencement of the hostilities. He observed that the Raja repeated the request he made at the conference of the I4th July that enquiry might be made of different persons, and result be sent to Marquiss Cornawallis, and renewed his promise of ability by their decision that he recommended a visit to Coorg where the Captain would meet with many inhabitants of the adjacent country as well as merchants at Tellicherry who could give the information required and that in compliance with the Raja's request he left Nalknad and proceeded to Tellicherry which he reached on the I4th ~~Aprix~~ Sept.I793. His stay was limited by the Raja for I5 days during which period it was his intention to convene the persons from whom the direct information might be expected, and examine them in the presence of Mr. Taylor. On descending the Ghat, Capt.Murray received a letter from Mr.Farmer dated the 7th of the month. This letter is not to be found in the selection of papers from which this information is derived, but the content of it were replied to in a subsequent letter.

Capt.Murray observed further that the Sultan was at this time tampering with the Raja through the means of the HUKUM of Munshirabad (Manjrabad) that he received a letter from Tipu while he (Murray) was at Nalknad with the Sirkar's seal upon it, which he read and explained to him.(Murray) In this letter Tipu flattered and held out great promises and advantages to the Raja but the proposals were not to be communicated except in a conference with the Huckum(Hulkum-?) The Raja expressed his anxiety to learn the nature of the proposals. The Huckum-? sent an old Hindu 'Sinnossy' (for Sanyasi), his Guru to pave the way with the Raja.

In answer to this letter, Mr.Farmer addressed to Capt.Murray on the I7th of Sept.

The Supervisor expressed his approbation of the measure taken by Capt.Murray to satisfy the Coorga, as to a fair mode of enquiry into the period of actual possession of the districts claimed by him. That the Raja or his ancestors might have possessed these districts at some previous to the commencement of hostilities, Mr.Farmer had not much doubt, but the true point ~~is~~ was, in his opinion, to ascertain what was the Raja's condition, and actual possession at the very period of commen-

commencement of hostilities, that is about the Month of May 1790, for, as there was no exact definition of what the Company were to restore him to,nothing more,on the ground of ---(?) faith and justice would be expected, than that the Company should leave him, at head , as well as they found him, a rule by which the Commissioners had been principally governmed in partitioning the Malabar country which would not at this time have been settled, if recurrence were to be had to all the possessions derivable from the rights founded on sound possession. He observed that other instances had arisen of the Malabar Raja falling short of their right by the total ignorance of the negotiations as to those rights, at the time of treating, and that the ceded territory was delivered by the Company's servants (not exactly so in all the instances,and in particular the Zamorin and the Rajas of Korrmenad and Cochin) as it were received from Tipu's officers. Finally Mr.Farmer was inclined to think that as the Raja affected to defy both the British and Tipu, it would be best to renounce the tribute and put him out of the Company's protection; for the present he wished that the Raja should be informed that the whole affair was in reference to Mar.Cornwallis.

To this letter, Capt.Murray replied on the 19th Sept,1793, and enclosed a letter to Mr.Duncan, containing all the information which he had been ~~xxxxxx~~ able to collect respecting the disputed districts accompanied by Mr.Ematt's letter aforementioned, and a letter from Mr.Taylor dated 15th Sept.- and also copies for information of Mr.Farmer. From these documents,Capt.Murray trusted that the Supervisor would see the Raja's claims in a most favourable light than ever and not think of abandoning him.

On his return to Nalknad, Capt.Murray intended to inform the Raja of the reference made by the Supervisor to Mar.Cornawallis and what had been done to support ~~thexpresent~~ in the present occasion. The idea of fixing of boundaries seemed to be at an end, the Capt. was of opinion that Tipu would never enter upon it, ~~be either.~~ Besides the boundaries were everywhere well-known by both parties, and he did not apprehend that there was much fear of infringment on either side, were the disputed districts out of the question.

Mr.Emmatt, the surveyor accompanied Capt.Murray to Tellicherry, and was now at Cannanore.

Capt.Murray's letter of the same date (19th Sept.) to Mr. Duncan will now come into consideration.

After recapitulating the questions propounded by Mr.Duncan and which have already been stated, Capt.Murray proceeded to inform that genetleman that he had waited upon the Raja at Nalknad, and after having communicated to him, the purposes of Tipu's letter to Mr.Farmer, demanded the information enquired.

With great candor the Raja informed him that he was, as

~~xxx~~

all his predecessors of the same race of Hindus as the ancient Bednur Rajas, that this country had descendants to him through a line of ancestors of whose first establishment as the supervisor of it, there was no certain period fixed, but which period was universally acknowledged to be most remote.

He then proceeded to give an account of the manner in which his ancestors became possessed of the districts of Amara, Sulya and Yelusaviraseme as aforementioned; the disposal of them by the Mysorean Govt.; invasion of Coorg in -?- ; deporatation of the inhabitants and revolution of the country, might be added, and division of Coorg into Jaghirs. The escape from Perypatna two or three years after (ought he not have said months?) before the commencement of the late war with Tipu, his return to the country, the revolt of the inhabitants in his favour, and in particular those of the 3 districts. The latter circumstance was adduced to prove that he was in possession of the districts before the commencement of the war. This matter has been enlarged upon before.

The Raja proceeded to give an account of his conquests made by him during the war, and the assistance afforded to the British army whereas the prince of Malabar rendered little if any service to the Company, and finally he requested that Capt.Murray would repair to coast for the purpose of consulting the native inhabitants who were well-acquainted with the Coorga country.

Having given the substance of his conversation with the Raja, Capt. Murray informed Mr.Duncan that he accordingly set out for Tellicherry and arrived there on the I4th Sept, and convened several men of character who had formerly resided in the Mangalore country. Some of them near the district in question and caused them to be examined by Mr.Taylor, Chief of Tellicherry, on the different points to be ascertained, and that they, without hesitation, gave the very same account of the grant of Amara that the Raja had given and confirmed his statement. With respect to Sulia, some, with some variation of the circumstances of its becoming subject to the Coorg Rajas which were of such a nature as not to lessen the reality of the fact; and that with respect to Elusaviraseme, as that country lay above the Ghats, they were not acquainted with what had taken place respecting it.

Capt.Murray then adverted to Lt.Emmatt's letters, which in his opinion, tended greatly to establish the Raja's title to the districts. This gentleman, he observed, had been long employed as a surveyor, and was a man of intelligence and excellent character, and as it would be observed by a perusal of his letter, had taken great pains when he recently surveyed the Coorga country and its boundaries, in enquiring of the people on the spot in all the three disputed districts concerning the Raja's claim to them, and found throughout, the result to be in his favour. Capt.Murray was fully convinced of the Raja's title to these places and of his determination to maintain the possession of them. Therefore,

feared ~~his~~ to provoke his resentment lest he should break with the Company and they should lose a valuable ally possessed of astrong country; when inhabitants were courageous and increasing in numbers. He observed that Mr.Duncan well-knew that the Raja was a man of high spirit, and expressed his regret to find him alienated from the British Nation since the conclusion of peace. He proceeds to notice the Raja's unwillingness to pay tribute, and the cause assigned by the Raja viz- the low state of cultivation and the encouragement given to new settlers as already noticed by way of comment to the certificate. The Captain then related the circumstances connected to the offers made by Tipu to the Raja through the Houkoum(?) of Munshirabad (Manjrabad.

Finally Capt.Murray observed that Tipu had not insisted upon the delivery of the three districts, and gave it as his opinion that Tipu would not be induced to revive his pretensiona, or disturb the Raja in his possession of the two districts below the Ghats as they were bounded by a thick jungle, and the countries were otherwise, naturally very strong and not worth above Rs.5000 per annum.

Mr.Taylor's letter to Mr.Duncan of the I8th Sept.I793 will now come for consideration. Having noticed the arrival of Capt.Murray and the examination of the witness, the Chief of Tellicherry gave it as his opinion that in consideration of the good conduct invariably maintained towards the English by the Raja during the war, it was incumbant on the Company to support him in the preservation of the Talooka Coorg as it stood previous to its dismemberament.

Mr.Taylor proceeded to give an account of the Raja's prowess, the services rendered by him to the Company, the engagements entered into with him, and the strict adherence to them. He drew a contrast between the heroic conduct of the Raja, and the pusillanimity (?) of the Malabar Rajas who all fled; and when country swarmed with Tipu's troops until they were dislodged by the Company's troops, and the Rajas reinstated. These Rajas, he observed, seemed for the most part more anxious to secure possession of their own territories than to assist in bringing the war to a conclusion. On the contrary, the Coorga at all times, most zealously assisted the British, and when the Bombay army descended the Ghats at the end of May I79I, he kept possession of his country in defiance of Tipu, and again at the commencement of the fair season, opened the way to the capital. Had he been inclined to temporise with Tipu at this juncture, said Mr.Taylor would most probably have ceded the disputed districts to him. But what prospect would the Raja have had under existing circumstances if he had betrayed the Company?

After introducing some further arguments in support of the Raja's cause, Mr.Taylor took notice of the commercial advantage which the Company derived from their connection with this prince, and the opening which the occupation of the Coorga country would give, in

case of a future war, into the Mysore country, also the protection which it would afford against an invasion of the Malabar province.

Finally Mr.Taylor reported the testimony adduced by the natives in favour of the Raja's claim to Amara and Sulya, and confessed their ignorance with respect to Elusaviraseme. He admitted the fact of these districts having been dismembered.

On the 20th Sept.1793, Mr.Farmer addressed Lord Cornawallis on the subject of the disputed districts and transmitted sundry documents for his information.

It is a circumstance welknown that at the conclusion of the peace between Tipu and the allied powers in March 1792, two sons of the Sultan were delivered up as hostages and conducted to Madras, where their continuance was unnecessarily protracted by an unaccommodating disposition of the Nizam's ministers manifested on this occasion. At the time when Lord Cornawallis left India, nothing of any great importance remained unadjusted between Tipu and the confederates, and it was his Lordship's earnest desire that the hostages should be liberated but that desire was not complied with till some months after. In Dec. 1793, Tipu's Vakeels residing at Madras engaged to become responsible for the fulfilment of the treaty in the surrender of certain portions of territory to the Nizam. In Feb.1794 the hostages were liberated and in the succeeding month set out for Srirangapatna accompanied by Capt.Doveton.

It was naturally unexpected by Sir John Shore (who had recenly succeeded to the Supreme Govt.) that in the arrival of Capt.Doveton at the Sultan's court, all unadjusted points would be brought into discussion, as far as Tipu might feel it his interest to agitate them.

Under this expectation, the G.G. drew up certain instructions by which Capt.Doveton was to be guided in the event of the unadjusted points becoming the subject of conversation between the Sultan and him. The letter is dated 27th March (1794 ?). With respect to Coorga, Sir John Shore desired that the Raja seemed disposed to settle his disputes with Tipu, and declared his unwillingness to be implicated therein.

On the 27th Feb.1794 the princes accompanied by Capt.Doveton, commenced their journey from Madras. On the 17th March they ascended the Ghats, and encamped on the BeddaNaik Durgam Pass where they were met by Meer Muhamad Ali Kahn, an officer in Tipu's service. Tipu, who had been on a circuit in his country for two or three months lay encamped with a small army near Devanahalli to which place he desired that the princes might proceed. On the 28th, they marched to the place of his encampment and the meeting took place on the 29th. The Sultan received Capt.Doveton very graciously and spoke highly of Lord Cornawallis who had manifested so much kindness towards the hostages and had lately interceded on their behalf. He reprobated (?) the conduct of the French in murdering their king, gave it as his opinion that they deserved to suffer every misfortune that had befallen them, and professed to admire the excellency of the British constitution. Capt.Doveton obtained his

absence of leave on the 6th April, and quitted the Sultan's camp on the I8th on his way to Calcutta. (Capt.Doveton to Sir John Shore on the /3Ist March and I5th April.)

The letter of 27th Oct.I794 from Bengal to Bombay (entered in the Madras volume) contains some further particulars respecting the deputation of Capt.Doveton. The Bombay Govt. were informed that as Capt.Doveton had not proceeded to Srirangapatna, no negotiation had taken place relative to the boundaries between the Sultan, the Coorga Raja and the Company. It would not indeed be expected that under existing circumstances when Tipu had experienced so much kindness from the Company Govt. in the liberation of the princes, and whe he himself had ceded sundry places to the Company which did not belong to him (and of which unfair proceeding complaint had been made) the Sultan should be very forward to open a disagreeable negotiation.

Capt.Doveton, on his departure, was charged with the conveyance of a friendly letter to Sir John Shore, to which the G.G. replied on the 9th July following, and informed the Sultan that he was glad to hear that the Ameens- which had been appointed by him, and the Nizam, were exrting themselves to adjust the boundary disputed. He expressed his hope that his Highness would have cause to be satisfied in which case the stipulation of the treaty of Srirangapatna would be completed to the satisfaction of all parties.

To return to the letter of 27th Oct.I794 from Bengal to Bombay, the Supreme Board informed the Bombay Govt. that no other opportunity had presented itself for bringing forward a discussion of the boundaries of Coorga but that this circumstance was the less to be regretted as every measure of conciliation had been tried and the Company's engagements with the Sultan had been strictly adhered to, They observed that the Raja was unwilling that the Company should interpose, but that the Sultan was inclined to an amicable accommodation, therefore, the G.G. hoped that the dispute had by this time been terminated.

Nothing further occurred on the subject of Coorga until the month of Dec.I795 when complaint was made of frequent depredation committed by the Coorga people in the district of Peryapatna.

(Capt.Macleod- 8th Dec.I795.)

True copy of the Original report, and of the photostat copy obtained by me in January I966.

I.M.M.

I. M. Muthanna Jan. 1966 London

DR. I. M. MUTHANNA,
M.A., (B.O.L.,) B.T., (MADRAS)
PH.D., (COLO.,) DIP.-IN-JOURN. (LONDON)
PHONE: 325-3573

Notes on Coorg.
Capt. J. McLeod.
8th Dec. 1795

I. M. Muthanna
London U.K.
January 1966.

DR. I. M MUTHANA,
M.A.(B.O.L.),B.T.(MADRAS)
Ph.D.(COLO.), DIP.-IN-JOURN.(LONDON)

Coorg Progressive Literary Society.

(ಕೊಡಗು ಪ್ರಗತಿಪರ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಸಂಘ.)

President:
VIDWAN I. M. MUTHANNA.

Hon. Secretary:
B. K. NARASIMHA MURTHY.
COORG PUBLISHING CO.,

Treasurer: R. G. Kamath.
[redacted].

MERCARA, COORG.

Ref No: .....

Date 18th March 1966..

The following are a few of the old records — transcripted — in London. March 1966.

I. M. Muthanna
London 18/3/'66

DR. I. M. MUTHANNA,
M.A., (B.O.L.,) B.T., (MADRAS)
PH.D., (COLO.,) DIP.-IN-JOURN. (LONDON)
PHONE: 325-3573

total receipts and disbursements on [illegible]
for ten years past(excluding the disbursement on the ex-Raja's account) observes, that the probable surplus revenue may be estimated, in future, at about Rs.60,000 per annum. In consideration

2Ist August I857. No.5, Ordered that the following letter be issued: (No.704 of I847)

592(2)

From G.A.Bushley Esq.Offg.Secretary to the Govt.of India to Maj.T.D.Carpenter, Supdt.with the ex-Raja of Coorg and Satara.

Sir,

I am directed by the President-in-Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.2I, dated the I3th ultimo, regarding the circumstances of the ex-Raja of Coorg and his family. ii) In the plan for improving the ex-Raja's circumstances submitted with your letter No.26 of the 3Ist August last, there are three principal points alluded to, viz first, the earnest desire of the ex-Raja to be removed from Benares to some place in the Madras territory, with your recommendation that it should be complied with. Secondly, the inadequacy of the amount at present allowed for the support of the ex-Raja and his family, vix Rs.39I5½ per mensem, with your recommendation that it should be increased, and that a separate grant should be made to the Raja to enable him "to re-fit his establishment to his satisfaction". Thirdly, the amount (estimated at Rs.I4,000) by which the Raja's disbursements had exceeded the sanctioned sum. The consideration of the first question led to the correspondence which was communicated to you with my letter of the I2th December No.I008, and the question last noted was settled by my letter of the 26th June last,No.544, in the third Para.of which authority was given for a disbursement of Rs. I4,000. The second question, the inadequacy of the Raja's allowance, forms the subject of your present letter, and upon this, I am now instructed to convey to you the following instructions.

Thirdly, the President-in-Council, upon an examination of the total receipts and disbursements on account of the Coorg territory for ten years past(excluding the disbursement on the ex-Raja's account) observes, that the probable surplus revenue may be estimated, in future, at about Rs.60,000 per annum. In consideration

~~OF THIS CIRCUMSTANCE~~ of this circumstance and of the necessities of the ex-Raja, as represented in your several reports, His Honour-in-Council has resolved to allow the Raja a fixed stipend of Rs.5,000 per mensem, and I grant him (as recommended in the concluding Para of your letter) a bonus of one month's allowance at this rate, to ~~enable~~ enable him to enter upon the management of his own affairs free from ~~embar~~ embarrassment.

Fourth, you will be pleased to report the date on which this arrangement will come into operation.

Fort William,
2Ist August I847.

Sd)G.A.Bushley
Offg.Secretary to the Govt. of India.

TRUE COPIES.
East India House,
I6th Feb.I857.

Sd) J,S.Mill,
Examiner of Correspondence.

HOUSE OF LORDS:-

Motion 54. ORDERED. That there be laid before the House copies of Orders of the Indian Government respecting the Amount and conditions of the allowance to be made to the deposed Raja of Coorg.

+ + + + + +

593(2)

6th May 1858- Minutes of Evidence taken before Select Committee on Colonization and Settlement in (India) especially in the Hill Districts and Healthier climates of the country)

Mr Vansittart was asked: Question No: 6806.

Is there any locality that you should prefer to any other for the settlement of the Europeans?

Mr. Vansittart: What I have said of Mysore answers that question. Mysore and Coorg are the countries that I would prefer, certainly; I think it stands to reason, from their situation, climate, and all other circumstances, that these are the preferable countries; and considering the height of the country, it is a fine plateau, well-raised above the sea, and ~~anything~~ lying between the two coasts and catching both the monsoons, it has every advantage.

Q: 5655 Chairman: Are you interested in any other property in India?

Sir Erskine Perry: Yes, in Coorg.

Have you any land in Coorg? Yes, I have some land there.

How did you get your land there? I sent out instructions to my Superintendant to go up to that part of the country, and select some land which he did, and made a very bad selection.

How did he get the land? He applied to the Commissioner of Coorg.

You pay a land tax for the land, I presume? No; we pay no land tax for it.

Not in Coorg? No; we pay no land tax, but there is a duty of As. 4 per maund upon coffee, the produce of Coorg-----There was no tax in Coorg when I commenced there; it has been imposed since.

What was that attracted you particularly to Coorg? I understood that there was a very excellent road from the coast to all Coorg and heard also that there were dense forests there.

Was there any other reason that induced you to go to Coorg? There was no tax there; but what principally attracted me, was the roads and dense forests.

Do you know whether the Coorg ryots are willing to give up their land? It appears that a great part of the lands in Coorg are held by the natives on a lease from Government for the sake of cardamom.

Here the climate is good; it is mild & genial compared with other countries; and considering - - -

28th October 1863.

Page 484 of Sir John Login and Dulip Singh
by Lady Login.

My dear Lady Login,

I had written but not sent the accompanying letter by the Queen's command, when I received yours this morning----The Queen has been very sorry to read the account you gave of princess Gowramma's health. She wishes to know whether you think that it would be injurious to her health to come down here to see her Majesty?

The Queen does not forget the kind manner in which you and Sir John undertook the care of this poor child at great personal inconvenience. If it is too much for you to write and answer this yourself, pray ask your daughter to do so.

Windson Castle,
28th Oct. 1863.

Always Sincerely Yours,
C.B.Phipps.

P.T.O.

593(3)

True Copy.
[illegible]
18/12/66

Page 449, Lady Login.

Dulip Singh had taken an active part in promoting, with the sanction of the queen, a marriage between the Princess Gowramma of Coorg, then under the care of her god-father Sir James Hogg and Lady Login's brother, Col. John Campbell (Madras Army) whose acquantance the princess had made after leaving Lady Login's charge.

On making over the princess to Lady Catherine Harcourt, Lady Login had been much gratified to receive an autograph letter from the Queen, expressing her thanks to Lady Login for having undertaken the charge at her request, and for the manner in which she had fulfilled it, This was followed by the gift of a bracelet "as a more durable mark of the Queen's appreciation".

10th November 1835.

Passed a resolution recommending certain officers to be appointed members of the Coorg Prize Committee about to assemble at the Presidency of which Col,P. Lindsey C.B.K.C.H. is to be President.

Page. 14956-7

17th February 1864.

My dear Lady Login,

The Queen was very much grieved at the account ~~of~~ you gave of the poor little princess in your letter, and directed me to telegraph at once to enquire for her, in her name.

It is very sad to see one so young cut off, but I think you have long thought that her lungs were in a very unsatisfactory state------

Osborne,
Feb. 17th, 1864.

Very Sincerely Yours,
C.B.Phipps.

+ + + +

P.T.O.

30th March 1864.

During the spring of 1864, after a long illness, the Princess Victoria Gowramma of Coorg, died, leaving an infant daughter, for whom, when she felt herself dying, she earnestly bespoke Lady Lgin's maternal care (At Lady Login's entreaty, the Queen arranged that a pension should be allowed by the India~~n~~ Office for the education and support of this child. The Queen however made it a condition that she should be entirely under Lady Login's care).

When Lady Login asked her to lie down, the Princess replied, "I only got up and dressed to show you that I mourn outwardly as well as inwardly for that GOOD Man (Sir John Login) who was such a true friend to me".

Her Majesty's kindness and solicitude never failed during the princess's illness, constant enquiries and telegrams were sent by her Command and after her death, the following inscription was sent, to be placed on her monument in Brompton cemetry.

Sacred to the Memory of
Princess Victoria Gowramma
Daughter of the ex-Raja of Coorg,
the beloved wife of Lt.Col.John Campbell,
Born in India, July 4th 1841.
She was brought early in life to England;
baptized into the Christian faith,
under the immediate care and protection of
Queen Victoria
who stood sponsor to her,
And took a deep interest in her through life.
She died in 30th March 1864.
"Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold."
~~John X, 16.~~
"Them also I must bring & they shall hear my voice
And there shall be one fold & one shepheard."
from St. John. x, 16.

3 lines

True Copy.
L. L. [illegible] 18/12/'66.

LADY LOGIN'S RECOLLECTIONS: 594(5) 5 50

The G.G. of India in a private letter to Mr. John Login wrote, "The visit of Jung Bahadur of the Punjab whom they spoiled, and still more, the present visit of the ex-Raja of Coorg, whom, in spite of all precautions and warnings, they have lifted out of his place, making a fool both of him and of themselves thereby, has disgusted the Court and Board of Control, with native, and especially with princely visitors".

\+ + + + +

Gowramma's mother has been of Caucassian extraction, but she was no more by I850. One of Raja's daughters was brought up in native style and ultimately became a wife of Jung Bahadur of Nepal.

The Raja of Coorg was himself much liked by Englishmen, for whom he had a great admiration; but for that very reason was regarded with disfavour by his own countrymen.

Campbells of Kinlock (The Scots Peerage from ~~I820~~ I280)

Maj.-Gen. Charles Campbell was the son of John Campbell (I804) of the Bengal Army in India in I840.

His brother Lt.Col. John Campbell (born I8I0) married Victoria Gowrama she being his second wife in I860. Lady Login was his sister.

Edith Victoria Gowramma was married in I882 to Henry E. Yardley and they had a son Victor Henry Yardley born in I885. He had three children- may be one son who died in Australia in I930s.

In I867 Lt.Col. John Campbell disappeared leaving no trace. He sold the portions of the land held by his forefathers for 250 years to George William Fox. The circumstances of his disappearence made much stir in London Society at the time, and it was remarkable in that that for the last 3 generations a similar eclipse, for any how a portion of their lives, had occurred in each case of the second son in the direct Kinlock line---He left "leaving no clue behind".

John Campbell who was the widower with three surviving sons by his first wife, married in I860, Gowramma "god-daughter of Q. Victoria, who had placed her, some time previously under MY MOTHER'S CARE" The book in question was written by Lady Login's daughter and published later. There was one daughter of this marriage to whom my mother was later made guardian. She has since married and has one son (born in I885)

On Aug, I867, Col. Campbell left his lodgings in London carrying only a small handbag, as if merely going out for the day. He refused the offer of his landlord to call a cab, saying he would find one at the top of the street; and from the moment that he turned the corner and the man lost sight of him, no further trace of him has ever been discovered. He had left a note that day at his club for his eldest son (by the first wife)- then home on leave from India, making an appointment for a few days later which he never kept. But so averse were the son and brother, Gen. Charles Campbell- from making any stir or talk in the matter, which might cause him annoyance were he to return suddenly that they delayed for three months (until Nov. Ist) application for Scotland Yard for assistance. By that time ofcourse it was too late, all trace had evaporated.

That Col. Campbell met with foul play very shortly after he left

left his rooms in Jermyn St. the police had no doubt-----In his last note he told his son that he had to "go into the country about a lump of money" -----Many tales were rife in London clubs regarding this 'mystery' as he was a welknown man in society, and a romantic interest attached to his marriage with an Indian princess. The one most in vogue, perhaps, was that he had been kidnapped and murdered by natives of India, either out of revenge or to obtian jewels belonging to his wife and which might possibly have been in the small black bag he carried as all his luggage. This idea however obtained no credence in the family. Poor Princess G's Oriental jewels were of small value though she had received some handsome gifts in that line from Queen V. none of which were found among Col. Campbell's possessions either at his rooms or at the bank.

Henry Yardley married his G's daughter Edith V.Gowramma in 1882 and had a son in 1885, but of Col.Campbell's fate no further tidings have ever reached his family though close on 60 years have now passed. (1924) Col.Campbell's eldest son Maj.Gen.Robert Campbell later became the head of the family. He had a very distinguished Indian career. Served in the 2nd Afghan War under Lord Roberts. His uncle Gen.Charles Campbell died in 1879.

Gowramma was of very fine complexion, extremely good-looking with every indication of high lineage and intelligent. She was habitually attired in English dress and looked exactly like an European.

The baptism ceremony of Gowramma at Windsor with the Queen herself taking part was stigmatised as a TAMASHA in his letter to Mr. Login by Lord Dalhousie at the time of Dulip Singh's baptism. So the poor old Raja felt much insulted when at the same time the Govt. of India compelled him to return to India as a political prisoner before his suit could come up in Lord Chancellor's court.

Mrs.Drummond did not find Gowramma in her best "although nearly 17 years of age, seemed still too backward and too childish to take an intelligent interest in general matters", and Mrs. D. expressed a desire to be relieved of a charge which was growing to be somewhat anxious and embarrassing."

Sir Charles Philips wrote "the Queen takes a great interest in the little princess, as Her Majesty considers herself as MORE than a god-mother to her".

Nearly four years later on the 14th May 1858, Sir John was consulted about a successor to Mrs Drummond, and the Queen asked Lady Login to take charge of her. Lady Login says, "personally I found the little princess most amiable and engaging, and in no way intractable while she showed a real affection for both me and my husband and never resented or disregarded our necessary restrictions".

G. had been residing for some time at Ryde in the Isle of Wight, for the benefit of her health when Mrs. D. brought at Albany Villas Brighton on 6th Sept 1858. Her Majesty had instructed to Lady Login "to write freely to Her personally anything I wisher to say about the Princess G." She wrote to the Queen "to determine at an early period the future provision, in the event of an offer of marriage----and---it appears---that it would be well to have this matter----soon decided.

The Princess arrived in Brighton in Sept.1858 and she seemed to be "in excellent health and appeared to have benefitted by her residence at the seaside." The Queen's Secretary wrote on the 16th Sept. on the "original plans of taking her for a short time abroad. New scenes, new pursuits and new ideas would thus be created----and the Queen is disposed to think that such an entire change of scene and life might be attended with the happiest results----As to her future prospects the Queen desires to me to say that her present provision shall be continued to her by the Indian Govt. for life----Her Majesty is not sure that the best chance for the princess of a matrimonial connection might not be with some foreign prince or nobleman of rank. To this the Queen would not object provided that the gentleman's position was a creditable one----".

In a letter on 2nd Oct.1858, Lady Login informer Her Majesty that Gowramma had an attack of internal haemorrhage and spitting of blood, though apparently at the time in perfect health, and suffering from no cold or cough---"

Queen lavished upon her god-daughter at all times the maternal care amid all her cares and duties and she found the time to examine and comment on all the details sent at short intervals by her desire. As soon as the attack was subdued, the Queen urged the removal of the Princess to the Continent. She tool very deep and tender concern in all the instruction and the arrangements.

The ex-Raja witnessed the baptismal ceremony. A Hindu availing himself of the invitation was noted with some consternation by Englishmen. The Bishop of Winchestor had a private interview and examination of the candidate, and reception and refreshments arranged at Church House.

The Queen asked Lady Login what suitable present could be given. The queen in the meantime had ordered for a set of coral and diamond ornaments (necklace and ear-rings) This was presented on the occasion of her confirmation in 17th year.

Queen's secretary wrote, "The Queen hopes that these ornaments instead of gratifying the vanity of the young princess, may serve, when she looks at them, frequently to remind her of the high duties and responsibilities, which she has this day taken upon her----The Queen hopes that from this day the princess will feel the far higher and holier aspirations, which should fill her with the desire to please Almighty--- The Queen directs me to send many messages of kindness to the princess and to assure her that it gives Her Majesty sincere pleasure when you are able to give a satisfactory report of her".

Lady Login writes, "Poor Viraraja- he was a most amiable and polite specimen of a native ruler and appeared genuinely attached to his little daughter- who on her part, I am sorry to say, seemed very indifferent in her manner to him----He was technically no longer my husband's ward."(He had a separate establishment and a house of his own.)

Lady Login took Gowramma to luncheon at I p.m. on Jan 27th 1859, "a memorable date in the history of Europe as it proved, and I too was, as it turned out, to have a dramatic announcement at first hand- of an

event which has had an over-powering influence on the destinies of millions. After the luncheon, Her Majesty talked in a most kindly and gracious manner with all---It looked like a state programme when Lord Chamberlain also present and when Gowramma and guests took leave the queen herself bid them off. On the same day the queen became a grandmother with the birth of a baby to her daughter, Jan 27, 1859. The queen herself gave the news to Lady Login, "I am a grand-mother". The baby was the first commer in the line of succession to the Br.Crown.

Lady Login took G. to Italy. This was G's second trip to the continent. Dulip Singh who had been an hunting trip all over the continent joined them for the second time now also. He had himself expressed himself to ally himself to Gowramma in July 1859. However, later Lady Login wrote to the queen after her return to London as follows:

"-----The princess is very docile, and really does her best to improve herself----She is very much steadier than she was, and conducts herself when in society, with great modesty and proper dignity----Her manners at the Carnival were excellent though she enjoyed it heartily. -----I have engaged the services of a Persian lady as French teacher during our stay here and the princess is very industrious.----Dulip Singh is with us constantly----I cannot be blind to the fact that he entertains very different sentiments in many respects, to his former ones. I have avoided throwing the princess in his way and quite agreed with the determination he at first expressed, of not getting their names mixed up together---"

In another letter she wrote, "----The Maharaja had met the Princess G. a few evenings ago, at a small party, and I observed that he sat by her talking for some time. The next day he asked for a private interview with me, and, after saying that he thought the Princess much improved in manner and appearence, and that he felt a sincere feeling in her as his country-woman, he said that he considered it only right and honourable on his part to tell me at once that he could not ask her to be his wife; that, from what he had observed of her lately, he had made up his mind that she was not calculated to make him happy, as he did not feel the confidence in her----he would in an English girl."

"I was much distressed at this, for I had hoped that she was conducting herself so as to make a favourable impression----but he said repeatedly "I could never marry her. I could never feel more than pity for her. She would not be a safe wife for me. I dont. seem to trust her and I dread só any trouble after marriage". (Written on 31st March 1859. ~~or 1858~~)

Telling this he later named a young relative of Lady Login's husband who had her in his care and charge and whom Dupil Singh have had prolonged talks for a long time. Lena Login conveyed Singh's opinion to G. and after some days, Lady Login "was extraordinarily pleased, and touched by the humility with which she received my lecture".

On 30th May G. was taken to a state Concert and there she made the acquaintance of Lady Catherine and that the princess should make her appearnence at the State Ball. On June 9th she was put in charge of Lady Catherine Harcourt. A programme of June 23rd had to be deferred owing

to the fact that Viraraja was ~~dying~~ then dying in London and begged that she might remain nearer him for a time so as to come over occasionally to see him which would not be so easy if she joined Lady Catherine, in Isle of Wight.

Lady Login took her once or twice to see the poor old man but it was a very painful business. He was really fond of her but she seemed to be quite indifferent and showed very little feeling. He could speak no English, and she seemed to have entirely forgotten her native tongue, so that actually I had to interpret between father and daughter. On one of these occasions, the Raja made over to Gowramma the jewels that he had set aside as her portion. This caused much correspondence later.

The Queen did not approve of the princess visiting much her father's abode because she had taken Gowramma under her protection. Therefore later G. was put under Lady Catherine, in July 1859. The Queen in HER OWN HAND-WRITING wrote to Lady Login:

Osborne, July 27th 1859, My dear Lady Login,

Princess G. having now finally been given over to Lady Catherine Harcourt, I wish to express to you my sense of the great improvement which I find in her since she has been under your charge, and I thank you for all the kind and affectionate care you took of her, and the trouble you gave yourself in watching over this interesting child. May she turn out as we could wish.

With the Prince's kind remembrance and ours to Sir John Login, believe me. Yours Sincerely, Victoria R.

This letter was sealed with her private coat-of-arms etc. Five days later, her Secretary wrote:- "----I have now received H.M.'s commands to forward to you the accompanying bracelet, as a more durable mark of her appreciation of the readiness with which you undertook a charge, at a time when it was inconvenient to yourself, and of the admirable manner in which you discharged your duties---"

This bracelet of plain gold "gipsy" band was set with three fine stones---emerald, diamond and ruby- and engraved letters.

In the meantime the Raja requested the Queen to allow him to stay in England, to get his sons (out of 7 only one legitimate) here to educate etc. By the time a reply was expected, the Raja died. "He was" says Lady Login, "according to the standard of native ideas, by no means a bad man, though viewed through the English eyes, he might be indeed a hoary reprobate. Still he remained her father through all, and she owed to him the fact of her present opportunities of the Christian teaching".

Gowramma was given £ 1,000 a year pension for her life on 16th Aug.1860. She was married to Col.Campbell in July 1860 and then both went to his family house at old Kinlock. G. made herself a devoted and affectionate wife. She had a daughter on 2nd July 1861.

On 21st Oct.1863 Gowramma wrote to Lena Login from 27, Porchester Terrace, condoling the death of Sir John Login. She said, "I cannot express how truly distressed I am to hear of the sudden death of dear Sir

John. I loved him better than any relations I ever knew and I never can forget his kindness to me. I deeply feel for you, my dearest sister. I love you more than I ever did since you have written me that kind and affectionate letter-----Believe me ever your affectionate sister" G.

Her last above letter of 15th Jan.1864, written in pencil, was not clear for want of strength. Consumption at the age of 23 had taken too firm a hold of her. She implored Lady Login who spent most of the time with her to make her the promise that she would take her little daughter into her care and bring the child up with Mrs.Login's children until Edith came to age. G. was burried in Brompton cemetry on the 8th April. The Queen wrote that "the poor little princess' grave will be marked by some suitable memorial. H.M. thinks that a marble ~~and~~ or granite cross would be the most appropriate and hopes that, in the inscription the fact of her having been god-mother to the poor Indian child may not be forgotten----". Sir Charles Phipps says, "I cannot help thinking of her with the melancholy look which she had, poor thing, when I went down to see her and unhappy at the Harcourts".

Col. Campbell tried for her pension to continue in the name of her child. Lady Login concludes the story thus:

"I seem to have dwelt at such length on the story of poor Princess Gowramma, so tragic in many respects from its changes, vicissitudes and misunderstandings, that I will leave for the present any further mention of the little daughter who bore her name, and who in some ways so much resembled her."

True Copy -
I. M. Muthanna
London. Dec-1966-

DR. I. M. MUTHANNA,
M.A., (B.O.L.,) B.T., (MADRAS)
PH.D., (COLO.,) DIP.-IN-JOURN. (LONDON)
PHONE: 325-3573

595(2)

11th January 1867. Contd: Martin Montgomery to Lord Viscount Cranborne, Sec. of State for India.

My Lord,

I solicit a decision on the Coorg Case which I had the honour of submitting to your Lordship on 30th Nov. 1866; and I beg the perusal of the annexed legal points:

i) The money which the 2 Promissory Notes represent was borrowed in the last century by the E.I.Co., as MERCHANTS for purely trading purposes; and they are therefore declared to be payable to "executors, administrators or order".

ii) The money being the private property of the Raja, he invested £ 65,000 in the name of his daughter Devammaji, and the interest on these two Notes (which were acknowledged by the East India Co.) to be the private ~~property of~~ and personal property of the Raja) was appropriated to the support of the widows and families of the late Viraraja and Lingaraja up to the period of the stoppage of the interest (in 1833) by the E.I.Co.

~~iii)~~ "Such Notes" cannot therefore be viewed as "Jura Regalia" and they were not treated as such on the annexation of Coorg; ~~and~~ they were not considered as "booty of war", and they have not to the present day been confiscated or cancelled.

iii) At the suggestion and with the promised cooperation of the E.I.Co., the "Coorg Case" was submitted to the Court of Chancery; it was heard by Lord Remilly, who was ready to give judgement thereon, when the Attorney-General on behalf of the Sec.of State for India, suddenly and without warning objected to a municipal court pronouncing an opinion on the acts of sovereign power.

The Coorg Case has therefore never had a legal or an equitable decision, and should the Crown not restore those two Promissoey Notes, the House of Lords, as a High Court of judicature, and not a municipal court, can pronounce a verdict on the case.

Will Lord Cranborne submit it to the House of Lords?

Sd) Martin M.

12th January 1867

To M.Martin Esqr.

I am desired by Lord Cranborne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday on the Coorg Case and to inform you that the matter is under consideration and that the points now advanced will receive due attention.

Sd) W.H.Benthall

21st January 1867

To. W.B.Eastwick, Secretary to Viscount Cranborne---

P.T.O

2Ist January I867

Contd.

I request you will do me the honour to lay ~~down~~ before Vis.Cranborne the enclosed copies of correspondence between the India Office and its Solicitor relative to the suit in Chancery instituted by the ex-Raja of Coorg, against the E.I.Co., at the desire of the Court of Directors.

On the transfer of dominion from the E.I.Co., to the Crown, H.M.'s Secretary of State for India (Lord Stanley) announced on the 6th May I859 that "legal position" of the pecuniary claims of the deposed Raja for the restoration of his private property (in 2 Promissory Notes) should be brought "to a decision on its own merits with the utmost possible despatch".

This however has not yet been done. The Attorney-Gen.(Lord Westbury- now) acting, I presume, according to the instructions from the India Office (then Sir Charles Wood) and without any previous intimation to the plaintiffs, declared before Sir John Romilly that he objected, on the part of the Crown, to the Master of Rolls, EVEN HEARING THE CAUSE.

The court over-ruled the objection as to hearing but, but was compelled, by reason of the refusal of the Crown to permit the cause to be tried "on its own merits" to declare that the suit for the restoration of the Coorg private property was "not subject to the control of the Court".

Thus after more than six years of delay, a very costly litigation, and increasing anxiety, which terminated in the death of the Raja, the India Office suddenly repudiated the pledged promise of H.M.'s Govt., "that the suit in question should be decided 'on its merits'.

I donot think that Viscount Cranborne can be cognisant of this very important fact, and I feel assured that when made aware of this violation of the faith of H.M.'s Govt. His Lordship will have no hesitation as to the hon'ble course to be now pursued.

I remain- etc.
Sd) R.M.Martin.

22nd January I867

Mr. E.B.Eastwick acknowledged the letter.

END.

True Copy.
[illegible signature]
18/12/66.

596(A)

COORG CASE. Some points collected by R.Martin Montgomery.

Dr. Travers Twiss, Prof. of Civil Law in Oxford University, in his work on Law of Nations says: on the subject of confiscating or seizing debts: " It is obvious that IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO NATURAL JUSTICE FOR THE STATE to reap the benefit of a loan of which it retains possession, and at the same time refuse to pay the equivalent which it pledged its faith to pay when it accepted the benefit."

Dr. Abby, Prof. of Laws at Cambridge on International Law says on the subject:

"Though the plea of necessity may be set up as a defence to the annexation and seizure of territory, yet that plea cannot apply to the confiscation of private debts and the seizure of the private property coming to the hands of the conquerors, not by conquest, but by trust and confidence. I say most emphatically, I go farther than Vattal and hold the true rule to be, as his commentator (Chitty Mr.) lays it down viz- that the right to debts and CHOSES in action is not forfeited by way of reprisal or otherwise."

I have consulted, says Mr.Martin M., many lawyers and jurists, and all concur in viewing the "Promissory Notes" as the personal property of the Raja and that the seizure of the moneys they represent by his conquerers, is an illegal act and repugnant to every principle of injustice.

On the 14th January 1867, Mr. Martin M. sent a copy of the Memo. on ex-Raja, to the Court of the Directors of the E.I.Co., and it was acknowledged by Mr.Benthall on behalf of Lord Cranborne on the 15th Jan. (This consisted of enclosures of the correspondence of 25th April 1859, 30th June 1859, 30th Sept,1859 and 4th January 1860.

It was reported that John Campbell, Princess Gowramma's husband left his house in Jermy Street, London some day in August 1867. Waiting for his return, and after ~~quite~~ quite a long time in Nov. 1867, an application was made to Scotland Yard about his disappearence

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From the Agent General, Benares,
To the Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.,
Calcutta.

dated Ist April 1873.

I have the honour to report that Gangamma, one of the daughters of the ex-Raja of Coorg, has been married to a Rais of Hyderabad-Deccan on the Ist of March last.

Permission has been given to her to go and reside with her husband in Hyderabad in future.

\+ + + + +

Seshyappa was the son of the late ex-Raja of Coorg. His widow Santaviravva died in 1879, and the Govt. sanctioned Rs.107/7/4 for her funeral.

\+ + + + +

Lingaraja's daughter Devammaji who was in Benares was prohibited from cultivating a portion of Kanatherikadu by Maj. Thomson but in 1876 this decision was reconsidered.

\+ + + + +

(From Government of Coorg- Home Records)

The scheduled Districts Act 1874 enables the Chief Commr. with the previous sanctiom of the G.G. to extend to Coorg any enactment which is in force in any part of Br.India, yet it must be observed that as Coorg has its own peculiar customs, usages------etc.

Coorg----having no legislature of its own, the Chief Commr. to whom administration is entrusted, has no other alternative than to move the Govt. of India from time to time, either to extend an Act already passed by the Imperial or local legislatures or to have a new or special enactment passed by the Govt. of India. The latter course must necessarily be attended by many difficulties and delays--------.

True Copy
T. K. Thimmaiah
18/12/'66.

I885- In Jan. Devammaji, the Raja's sister, was exempted from personal attendance at the treasury to receive her pension, of Rs. 250 p.m.

I886- In May Rajammaji alleged that Devammaji intended to resign all her Jamma and Jaghir lands in favour of her grandson Lingaraja and prayed it may be done in her name.

I890- A portion of Devammaji's Appangala land was given to one Buden Saheb of Mysore and she appealed to Govt. about that.
The Agent to the G.G. at Benares was asked whether Devammaji, the widow of the late Linga Raja, the only legitimate son of the ex-Raja of Coorg, was still alive.

I892- Sadashiva raja claims the property of Lingaraja, deceased only son of late Viraraja. Rs. 50 was recommended to Sugandh Raja and Chenaviraraj, the minor brothers of Rani Rajammaji.
The Commissioner was asked whether there is any objection to the requests made by Rajammaji and Ratnammaji (great grand daughter and wife of the grandson of the late Raja of Coorg) that their followers may be permitted to wear belts etc in traditional style.
The Govt. allowed them to wear belts of a different colour, other than worn by Govt. servants. They were not exempted from Arms' Act as Coorgs.

I896- Devammaji's grandson, Lingaraja was given a loan of 500 for Agricultural purposes.

I897- Devammaji, daughter of Lingaraja and the widow of the late Chenabasappa (now very old) wrote for certain concessions from the Government.

In Nalknad lives Nilammaji, daughter of Mallaya of Horamale. Neelamma, an illegitimate grand-daughter of of Duddavirajar was converted by Tipu as his wife. After his fall, she came back to Nalknad where she lived. She was given some pension. She must be 90 years or more now.(I862)
In Appangala lived Chenabasappa, Devammaji with one son of II years and 3 daughters. One of them is a widow of a Kanara Paleygar and the other two married to pensioned Paleygars in Bangalore. Chenabasappa has no influence among Coorgs.
RICHTOR: Chenabasappa is obnoxious to the Coorg and that if he be aggrandized in any respect a discontent will be created in the country
Coorgs wrote a petition stating that Chenbasappa had many designs including an eye on Coorg throne. He died on 3rd Aug.I868 at Appangala.
Raja's case dragged on a weary course, meanwhile in I858, the Govt. of India was placed under the Crown and his suit fell to the ground.
Shortly before the outbreak of the war, Puntabasava assaulted Dewan Ponnappa in the presence of the Raja whom he dissuaded from fighting against the Company. With his clenched iron fist Basava gave him a blow on the temple which sent him to the ground for dead----
Later C.Ponappa became the principal man in the country. His grandson Subbayya is now the Asst. Supdt. of Coorg.

Dewan Ponnappa had borne grudge against Bopu and told against Bopu stating that he had received information that Bopu's relatives joined insurgents. Capt.Lehardy's suspicions were confirmed. He charged Bopu with treachery. "Go down to your friends, the rebels, be an open enemy, go, and I will come after you, and, if I catch you, you shall be hung".

Bopu, a faithful servant of the Company, was terribly alarmed. He was innocent. He collected Coorgs of Beppunad who had gathered in Mercara and promised to put down the rebels. Lehardy and he marched towards Sampaje.

Excerpts - True - Copy.
P. H. Kumara
18/12/1966.

597-(3) The Hon'ble Court of Directors of the E.I.Co.,- the humble Memorial of Viraraja W. of Coorg.

Showeth-

That I (your Memorialist) was for some years previous to the 24th April 1834, an independent Hindu sovereign prince in alliance wit the hon. Company's Govt. being the ruler of Coorg, a mountain principality in south-west of India, the capital of which is Madikeri or Mercara.

On the above date, war having been previously declared against me (or your Memorialist), I surrendered myself and my family to Col. and now Gen.James S.Fraser, who was acting as Political Officer and Special Commissioner appointed by the India Govt. to accompany the Br. troops on their advance. At this time, I was a creditor of the E.I.Co's Govt. to a very large amount as the holder of the Public Stock of that Govt. being part of their funded Indian Debt, secured by, and the principal and interest payable out of their territorial revenues. This public stock was represented by certain Govt. securities or Govt. Pro-Notes, in the nature of Exchequer Bills, and called Company's paper. Part of that stock actually stood in the books of the hon.E.I.Co., and part of the said securities was actually made out, in my individual name.

The money so invested in and secured by the Govt.securities was originally lent to the Co's Govt. in diverse amounts, and at diverse times, by the late Viraraja W. my paternal uncle, and by the late Linga Raja, my father, both formerly and successively the Rajas of Coorg. The late Lingaraja succeeded his brother Viraraja and I succeeded on the death of my father which happened in the year 1821, by the right of inheritance to the sovereignty of Coorg, as the sole heir and representative by Hindu law. I was accordingly at the time of the occupation of my country by Br.troops, entitled to and held, the said Govt. stock, and Govt. securities. These he had for some considerable time previously held and continued to hold without any doubt or suspicion, placing confidence in the good faith of the Co's Govt. and feeling safe under the security and protection of the law of nations, the principles of which the Co.'s Govt. in common with all civilised Govts. respect and observe.

One of these Govt. securities held by me, and which had been made out in my own individual name, was to secure the payment to him of the sum of Sicca Rs.203,900 or £ 22,938, together with interest payable thereon in the meantime, and half yearly at and after the rate of £ 4% p.annum.

The Govt. security was dated Ist May 1839 and registered as No.1733 of the Govt. 4% loan of 1832-33. By reference to the copy of it which will be found in the Appendix hereto, marked No.I, it will be seen that the G.G. of India acknowledged to have received from me the last mentioned sum as a loan and thereupon promised on behalf of the E.I.Co., to repay the same to me, my Executors or Administrators or to or their order.

Previous to the last mentioned date, I, as sole heir at law and representative by Hindu law of my deceased father, the said Lingaraja W. held another Govt. security or Co.'s Paper registered as 3596 of 1832-33.

And like amount of Govt. Stock in the Madras 5% loan. This amount in and by which Govt. Security was acknowledged to have been received from the said Lingaraja W. by the Governor of Madras as a loan; and the Governor on behalf of the E.I.Co., promised to repay to him, his executors or administrators, or to his or their order, with interest in the meantime payable half yearly at the rate 5% per annum. From the time of the death of my father, I received from the Madras Govt. the interest on this Govt. Security as it accrued due and payable, the Govt. taking receipts from me on the back of the said Security for the interest from time to time paid to him according to usage, which receipes were granted in my own individual name.

I was therefore acknowledged to be entitled to the said Govt.Security and the money thereby secured, in succession to my father; and I, accordingly continued to receive such interest until the date herein-after mentioned.

Notice was afterwards given by the E.I.Co.,S Govt. that the said 5% loan would be paid off, and I thereupon, instead of demanding and receiving payment of the amount of such last mentioned Govt. Security (which was then entitled to and would have received by the Madras Govt.) elected and agreed to transfer the amount due thereon to another loan, called the 4% loan of the Bengal Govt. of the 7th June 1831 and to receive a nre Govt.Security to secure a like amount of stock in that 4% loan, upon giving up such 5% Govt. security.

This transfer was accordingly effected through the Resident at Mysore, the Political Officer of the Br.Govt. who alone was authorised and empowered to hold political relations and carry on all official communications with me as sovereign of Coorg.

I, in pursuance of this agreement delivered up the 5% security to that officer, who thereupon granted to me a formal written acknowledgement of which the following is a copy:

Mysore Residency, 20th Dec.1831.

"I hereby acknowledge that Viraraja W.of Coorg, has this day transferred into the hon'ble Co's treasury a Pro-Note 3596 of 1822-23 for Calcutta Sicca Rs.two lakhs, 3 thousand and 9 hundred in favour of Lingaraja W. late Raja of Coorg, for which he is entitled to receive a Pro-Note bearing interest from the Ist May 1832, of the tenor and subject to the conditions specified in the advertisement published in the Govt.Gazette of the 9th June 1831, and immediately the same interest from the date of acknowledgement to the 30th April 1832.

Sd) Casamajor, Resident.

I, accordingly in pursuance of that undertaking on the part of the Resident in Mysore, afterwards duly received the intermediate interest, due from 20th Dec. 1831 to the 30th April 1832, from the Madras Govt. and in further pursuance of such undertaking on his part, and in consideration of myself having surrendered the former Govt. security of the 4% loan in his own individual name, which was the Govt. security first above mentioned.

On that substituted Govt. security, I received the interest, by a special provision to that effect, from the Madras Govt. that Treasury being nearer to my country than the Bengal treasury.

It will thus be seen that the title of mine to this Govt. security, and

to this principal money and interest secured throughout, acknowledged and admitted by the Co.'s Government.

A second of the Govt. securities, which I had held previous to and at the time of the occupation of Coorg by the Br. troops, was a renewed Govt. security, issued by the Governor in Madras registered No.65 of 1828-29 of the 6% Madras Govt. loan, to secure the principal sum of Madras Rs.653,940, together with interest at the last mentioned rate. A copy of this Govt. security, marked No.3 is set forth in the Appendix.

The money invested and secured by the Co.'s paper was originally lent by Viraraja, my paternal uncle since deceased, to the Madras Govt. and the original Govt. security granted, which was for Star Pagodas 186,840, as well as the first substituted and the renewed Govt. security last herein-~~after~~ before mentioned, were taken, as is not uncommon among the natives of India, in the name of Viraraja's daughter.

This person whose name was Devammaji and who was usually called Rani of Coorg by courtesy, and also to distinguish her from another Devammaji, the sister of me hereinafter more particularly mentioned, for whom she has been more than since mistaken by the Br. officers, died previous to the occupation of Coorg by the Br. troops, leaving neither child nor husband living.

The interest on the said original Govt. Securoty for Star Pagodas 186,840, and afterwards on the Govt. security for Madras Rs. 653,940 into which the Pagodas had been changed, as well as on the said last mentioned renewed Govt.Security, was regularly paid by the Madras Govt. to Lingaraja W. the late Raja of Coorg, my deceased father- and from that time, when I succeeded as Raja, up~~ee~~ to the year 1832, such interest was regularly paid to me through his constituted attorneys, the respectable firm of Binny & Co.,and then still carrying on business at Madras as merchants and agents.

In Sept. 1833, I transmitted as usual, the last mentioned Govt. Security for Madras Rs.653,940 to his said agents and attorneys, to receive for and on behalf of me, the interest which had accrued due and payable thereon since the then last periodical payment made to them by the Govt. The mode prescribed to me for transmitting letters and documents to Madras being the official channel of the Resident of Mysore, on the occasion last mentioned, I, through and under cover of a letter to that officer, sent this Govt. Security to M/S Binny & Co.

M/S Binny & Co. in the usual course of business, handed this Govt. Security into the Madras Govt. treasury in order to obtain the interest due thereon. M/s Binny & Co. allowed it to remain there for some considerable time, and it was not returned to them until Feb.1834, when it was sent with a letter written and addressed to them by the Deputy A.G. of Madras dated the 8th of that month. This was as follows:

To M/S Binny & Co, Gentlemen,

I am directed by the A.G. to return to you herewith a Pro-Note of the Govt. in favour of H.H.Devammaji, Rani of Coorg, as described (6% Pro-Note of Ist Feb.1811-No.65 of 1828-29, Madras Rs.653,940) which accompanied your letter of 13th Sept.last, the usual communication from

Govt. for payment to you of the interest due thereon not having been received up to this date. I am to beg that you will be pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the Bond------

Sd) S.Crawford,
Deputy A.G.

Fort St.George, A.G.'s Office, 8th Feb.1834.

The Chief Sec. of Madras again wrote to M/S Binny & Co. but not as it would appear until the 4th April 1837 and then only to the purport and effect following viz- that the Govt. did not acknowledge the proprietory of the ex- aja of Coorg, meaning myself, to the Govt. security standing in the name of the late Devammaji, the daughter of the late Viraraja W.

It did not appear from this communication what was the particular ground upon which the ompany rested their denial of my proprietory right to this Govt. security, after having since the year 1821, when I succeeded my father as Raja of Coorg, up to 1831, paid as above mentioned regularly through the Attorneys M/S Binny & Co., the interest from time to time accruing due and payable thereon. If, however, the Govt. by such letter intended to set up the right of Devammaji to this security, by reason of the same standing in her name, I would in answer submit the following:

i) That by Hindu law no legal reference can be drawn from the fact of a Hindu father taking a security in the name of his child, that he intended such security, or the money thereby secured, as an advancement or provision for that child; such inference, of the transaction being one of advancement or provision, being a creature of English law merely, and not known to Hindu law------

ii) Even if the Govt. security in question were to be considered and treated as having been given by the father to his daughter Devammaji, as and for a provision for her, that lady had died without leaving either husband or child even before the British troops occupied Coorg, and I, was by Hindu law upon her death entitled as heir to succeed to the Stock secured by this document, and to hold in his own individual right such Stocks, and the document or security representing the same-----

In the course of the formal enquiry the death of Devammaji, was ascertained by those officers (Col.Fraser and Capt.Carpenter) to whom I confidently refer to prove the same.

I have never yet had any reason assigned by the Govt. for not resuming the payment of interest to me on the Govt. security standing in my own individual name, on the cessation of hostilities, which interest the Resident of Mysore had advised should be suspended only during the intermediate period, which was the utmost that ought or could have been done by international law. If however the Company Govt. should set up any claim either to the principal or interest of the stock represented by the other Govt. security standing in the name of late Devammaji. I would beg leave to submit the following objections to such claim----(quoted Int. law- Everything that belongs to the nation-----)

Although the booty found in cash and other property in the palace at Coorg, to the amount of upwards of £ 30,000 was seized and divided as ~~prize~~ prize in the usual manner among the troops engaged. Secondly, that the several portions of stock, in my name and the late Devammaji in the books of the East India Company, Rs. 203,900 still stands in my name; the sum of

of Madras Rs. 653,940 now stands in the name of Devammaji, the Govt. thereby admitting their liability to pay the same, respectively and they have been brought forward in the same names in account books.

(Then again he quotes the international law.)

On the 25th April 1834, Capt. Carpenter entered my palace and stated that his instructions were to march me as state prisoner along with my family to Bangalore. A few hours after this I, and my whole family began our march; after having been required to surrender to the British troops all his treasury and valuables of a value of Rs. 16 lakhs or £ 160,000, and I and my family having been allowed to retain only the cloths and ornaments in actual use. That treasure and valuables were later on distributed as booty.

(The melancholy march------His pecuniary claims------his political and friendly relations------Coorg had with the British from 1790----- quotes letters of Wellesley etc------narrates the story of Chenabasava --------Role of Casamajor and Mr.Graeme and Lord Bentink and K.Menon This 34 page-Memo concludes as follows:

"Your Memorialist hopes that the eminent services of his gallant uncle, the peaceful reign of his father, the amicable and friendly relations which had so long subsisted between the state of Coorg and the Company together with his own offensive conduct and patient endurance of his misfortunes during his long exile, may be considered as affording him some ground for asking not only a patient hearing for his pecuniary claims, but also for asking what your Memorialist does now most respectfully ask viz: a restitution of those securities and principal moneys and interest which have been so long withheld from him, and out of which alone will he be enabled to make a certain provision at his death for his family of twelve children, and his numerous faithful retainers.

And your Memorialist will ever pray.

Sd) Viraraja W.

----------END----------

True copy.

I. M. Muthanna
08/05/1966.

DR. I. M. MUTHANNA,
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Hilton Bro.

598(3)

Blavkwood's Magazine No. MCCLXXXV Nov. I922.
William Blackwood & Sons, London & Edinburgh.

An Astonishling Land of Coorg- Hilton Brown.

The Br. connection with Coorg begins in I790 at a conference between Viraraja and Robert Taylor of Tellicherry, and the first phase of it ends in Kensal Green cemetry with the tomb stone of 2nd Viraraja, the father of the Princess G. whose godmother was Q. Victoria and no less. It is a story of ups and downs, bright moments and dark.

----The Coorgs certainly stood by us against Tipu and were good and valuable friends, for which we recompensed them with more justice than generousity. Later the excesses of the Rajas drove the Br. to intervene in Coorg's domestic affairs with the upshot that Coorg is now a province of Br. India, and Viraraja II----occupies a conspicuous grave within easy earshot of the clamorous traffic of the Harrow Road.

-----It is that amazing line of monstrous tyrants that makes the history of Coorg between I790 and I834 read like a novel----Never surely, since the worst days of the Fall of Rome, can any throne have supported so blood-thirsty a crew. They were not Coorgs- they were Lingayats from Ikkeri.

-----One would hardly credit the Coorgs with the impulse to subject themselves, body and soul, to an outsider, (the Lingayats who assassinated then existing Coorg chiefs. The first Lingayat came as a priest after the fall of Vijayanagar). Yet, that is what they did, and as a result Coorg is full of dark stories of royal relatives murdered and hidden in the depths of jungles.

-----A comparison of Coorg with Scotland is really almost inevitable. Scotland in the days of Sir Walter and Coorg at this present moment are not nearly so dissimilar as latitude and distance would suggest. Both have grand and regal highlands with a sturdy mountain dwelling race; both have low lands attached----Both are rich in music, dance----folk-lore and folk-songs, in hearts ready for hospitality and hands ready for sword.

------That is Coorg, and there is a touch of Scotland about it again- the beauty clouded with the melancholy of old stories, the great past stained with blood inhumanly split.

-----You may get 400" of rain, you may get 200" or you may get 60"- it all depends in what part of the province you are, and how far you have succeeded in escaping from the terrible s.w.corner where the Kaveri rises, and where the priests of the upper temple must live for days on end in an atmosphere that is more water than air. The monsoon rain in Coorg is not adrizzle or a Scotch mist or any other euphemism; it is rain.

------There is never any remission of assessment, because the water supply never fails. Soon or late down comes the monsoon, and the joyful ryot, drenched to the skin and up to his knees in mud, puts a boat-shaped umbrella on his back and goes forth to collect his blessings.

------Coorgs are certainly not the aborigines of the place----his characteristically individual nature, his remarkable and unique dress, and certain of his customs and usages are not of S.India at all.----The Coorg dress is the most picturesque of any in India- a long black coat with sleeves cut short at the elbow, so as to show the white shirt underneath, a scarlet and gold sash; and two knives, a large and small. This is not the dress of any other south Indian- or indeed any other Indian at all. There is a touch of Arab about it, but not much; I believe that in Tibet one comes across something of the kind. Clothes perhaps donot make the man; but if you find a man deliberately and by tradition wearing clothes which he should not wear, it is reasonable to argue that there is something intrinsically unique about it.

-------Coorg religion is the worship of the Kaveri plus devils. A Coorg may tell he is a Shavaite Hindu----Classification of the race as Aryo-Scythian etc does not help to get their mysterious origin.---There is one point in the tale of Chandravarma to note- its authors, perhaps Brahmins, saw clearly that the Coorgs were different and that difference they could not explain. Ethnologists are also no better in that.

-----A Coorg is a sportsman and an athlete, endowed by nature with a superb eye and an admirable physique---After you have eaten and drunk together he will ride with you anywhere, he will shoot snipe with you- but better, he will tramp with you over mountains and through jungles.

------I donot say that the Coorg is the simple-minded highlander which some have made him out; his character is very complex; and like all characters, has its undesirable aspects. He is given at times to over-astute scheming, and he is prone to a ridiculous conceit.

-------There is just one disconcerting feature about the Coorgs- their ready willingness to be dominated by the outsider. If an Apparandra or a Kodandera or a Nadikerianda or any other of the fine old Coorg families should chance to read this, he will probably buckle on his Odi Kathi and set out for my blood. For the Coorg's profession is all to the contrary, but the fact remains. I have made mention of old history of the Coorg Rajas- how they, being foreigners of a different country and caste, succeeded not only in raising themselves to the throne by by ousting the indigenous Naiks and chieftons, but even in imposing on the people of the country a despotism of terror which must be very nearly unequalled in civilized history.

------The brahmin is unquestionably an outsider to the Coorg social system; yet he has warmed himself----He works the temples, even temples at the Kaveri source, and in weddings and births and buryings he must appear and preside----It is the same thing with the political agitator; I have seen and heard a fourth rate Madrassi vakil talk over an assembly of Coorg, any one of whom was worth a dozen of him. But they gave in and were dominated; he opened his mouth and they were dumb. This gift of subservience is good in so far as it engenders loyalty- and loyalty is and always has been one of the brightest jewels in the category of the Coorg virtues; but it is bad altogether as indicating the absence of the power to discriminate---He wont. think for himself.

-------There are many non-Coorgs, Moplahs, brahmins, Gowdgals and others---But they donot really matter; it is the Coorgs who count.

------I said----that the Coorg had a passion for putting himself in the hands of political agitators. He will do so in matters like the amalgamation of his province with Madras----which incidentally would be disastrously against his interests, though very pleasant for the Madras vakils who foment most of the agitation.

------If the Coorg male is the Scots Highlander of South India, his womenfolk are beyond question its Parisiennes. You will see jacket and saree arranged in colour schemes of honey and sage, amber and purple, rose and grey, with the most faultless taste, all crowned with the flowing veil that lends beauty to any head. I have said nothing of the neat prettiness of the Coorg women----On way up to Talekaveri, you will doubtless meet Chetty and even Brahmin ladies from the hot plains of Tanjore and Madura- making heavy work of the ascent in contra-distinction to the tripping agility of the Coorgs and you will have an opportunity of judging yourself---"

------To get the heart of the real Coorg you must penetrate to the other place- the old grim palace of Nalknad----You'll crack your head a dozen times a day, for the ceilings were made for little people and the doors are but forehead high. That is a tragic little place- it is only a biggish house really, though tradition dignifies it with the title of 'Palace'- and its dark rooms and crudely painted walls could tell some strange stories.

------It was here that Viraraja married that cherished wife whose death drove him mad with grief; you may still see in front of the palace the little stucco pavilion where he and she sat together upon that happy day. And by an evil sequence of history it was here that the children of his favourite daughter, for whom he had made so many plans, were murdered and thrown into a pit at the bidding of his nephew, Viraraja II. It was in front of this quiet unassuming little house on the day after that monstrous deed that Viraraja and his Dewan walked together discussing whether the unfortunate wretches who had carried out the work- they were jungle tribesmen- should not also be despatched and cast into the pit before it was closed. A grim place and of tragic memories, and surely if ever ghosts walk it should be here. Yet is a place of serene beauty, nestling under the pedestal of the highest hill in Coorg, surrounded by sweetly running mountain burns and in the spring time of the year decked out with a profussion of coloured foliage that captures the eye in sheer delight. It is ill to believe that such sad things could have happened here. But that is Coorg again, as has been already said; a chequered past illuminated by glorious deeds, but blotted by hideous stories of evil, by memories of men bad or mad----but at least of well-nigh incredible savagery.

L.B.Bowring- in 1871- Mysore & Coorg.

Land revenue & other income- Rs. 5,94,460.

" As soon as the Raja was removed from the country, the Coorg people, without a dissentient voice, voted for the annexation of their territory to the British Crown, the province being one of the very few Br. possessions in India which has become such, not by conquest, but by the free consent of the population."

This is, ofcourse, a lie of Mr.Bowring. Coorgs ofcourse helped them to come in.

True Copy.
I. M. Muthana
8/12/1966.

DR. I. M MUTHANA,
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The Coorg Raja's Case
by
Montgomery Martin
to the
Secretary of State for India.
30th Nov. 1866.

By
I. M. Muthanna

London U.K.
30th Nov. 1966.

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DR. I. M MUTHANA, M.A.(B.O.L.),B.T.(MADRAS) Ph.D.(COLO.),DIP.IN.JOURN.(LONDON)

Mr.R.Montgomery Martin to the Rt.hon'ble Viscount Cranbourne, Secretary of State for India,

Wellesley Lodge, Sutton, Surrey, dated the 30th Nov. 1866.

My Lord,

As the surviving Executor of the Will of the ex-Raja of Coorg, I solicit your consideration of the accompanying exposition of a case which so deeply involves the first principles of international law, and so seriously implicates the public faith, the honesty and good name of England, that no lapse of time, no gloze of diplomacy, no view of state expediency, can justify the official ignorance of a claim which requires, I think, only to be thoroughly understood to receive the support of every honourable and impartial mind.

COORG CASE:- Coorg is a magnificent mountainous region, 3 to 5000 ft. above the sea, with a fertile soil and healthy climate, is situated on the western side of India, between Malabar and Mysore. It formed an ancient Hindu kingdom or Raj, and is referred to by the Persian historian Ferishta as an independent sovereignty in 1538. (A list containing the names of all the 'Princes of India', stipendiary, protected, tributary and feudatory' was published in 1833. 120 princes are enumerated and described, but the Raja of Coorg is not among the number, he being then one of the very few Indian princes not in any manner subject to, or dependant on, the E.I.Co., or the Br.Govt.) The Coorgs, a handsome race of a light colour, have the characteristic temperament of Highlanders- brave, devoted to their chiefs, irasible, chivalrous and hospitable.

Hyder Ali, after his usurpation of Mysore Raj in 1760, endeavoured by force and by fraud to become master of Coorg. His son and successor, Tipu, pursued the same object with great determination, and seemed nearly to have attained it, when Viraraja (the Elder) by the help of some devoted adherents escaped (with family) from the frontier fortress of Peryapatna where he had been imprisoned and circumcised by Tipu.

The Coorgs had suffered fearfully in their struggles to maintain their independence, and authority of their ancient Ling dynasty against the Muslim usurpers of Mysore: on one occasion they defeated a regular army of 15000 men and they continually renewed their resistance, retreating when defeated into the depths of their forests, until Tipu, marching against them in great force, drove the brave but disciplined mountaineers before him, divided his army into detachments, and adopting the plan of circular hunts, identified with the infamous memory of Timur the Tarter, closed in upon the unfortunate people, and carried off thousands of victims to undergo the two-fold misery of circumcision and captivity. Further resistance appeared hopeless, when the presence of the young Raja changed the state of affairs. The Coorgs flocked round him from the hiding places, distant captives escaped and joined him, and at length having organised his brave followers with much skill, he drove the invaders from post to post, till he

had expelled them from the country.

The reestablishment of the independence of Coorg rendered that state an object of extreme importance to the E.I.Co., as they themselves were at war with Tipu, and every Ghat or Pass between Bombay and Mysore was held by him, excepting that of Heggala in Coorg. The same pass likewise afforded the sole means of inland communication between Bombay and Tellicherry, the chief of a few straggling trading posts or factories, then the only property of the E.I.Co., on the Malabar coast.

A cordial alliance was entered into between the Raja and the Co., and a treaty concluded on the 26th Oct.1790, and the articles asserted as------

By the stipulation of this treaty, made between the two independent states, the Bombay army under Gen.Abrecromby, advanced by the Heggala pass, to the attack of Tipu, and joined the army of Cornawallis, who, thus reinforced, was enabled to dictate terms of peace under the walls of Sriran-gapatna, whereby the Sultan ceded half his dominions to the E.I.Co. During the progress of the war, Tipu sent confidential agents to the Raja of Coorg to try and detach him from alliance with the English; Raja rejected all these overtures; showed the letters to Gen.Abrecromby; headed a body of the Coorg troops, marched side by side with the British, repeatedly risked his life, and supplied them with cattle, rice and provisions and for which he 'declined taking an pecuniary compensation'.

The draft treaty of peace, drawn up by Lord Cornawallis contained a clause providing that Tipu should resign all pretensions to Coorg, on his part was required to give back the districts he had wrested from the Sultan, and to pay 8,000 Hoons (Rs.3 each) annually to the E.I.Co., for their friendship and protection, should it be required against Tipu.

The aid of the Co., was not needed. On the renewal of the war in 1799, the Raja assisted the Bombay army, under Gen.Stuart, with coolies, elephants, cattle and provisions to an enormous extent, refused all remuneration, detached a Coorg expedition into the Tulu country, fought the battle of Sideshwar by the side of Gen.Stuart and wrote a graphic account to the G.G. Lord Mornington. On the 4th ~~Nov~~ Mon, the G.G.replied: (Quote)

The generous appreciation of the G.G. was keenly felt by the Raja. The Br. troops were entertained with profuse hospitality in their routes from Bombay to Mysore through Coorg, the Raja declaring that a private Eng.soldier ought to be carried in a palanquin, and only be allowed to march when he went into battle. Col.Beatson officially decalred that "rice and grain collected in Coorg for the Br.Army was equal to the subsistence of 40,000 men for 159 days, the grams was for 2,000 horses for 20 days. (Rice amounted to ~~6x6~~ 6,360,000 pounds at 2 d. per pound= £ 53,000). Gen. Wellesley writes, "by the liberality of the Raja, the Co.s treasury is richer at this moment no less than six lakhs of Rs. than it would have been if he had taken payment of the money expended and for supplies furnished by him----In this, I do not take into consideration the nature of his services or the time at which they were rendered.

(The ingratitude displayed towards the munificent and devoted Ally of the E.I.Co., was only equalled to the injustice perpetrated, I cannot trace

in the records that the Co. ever assigned to him the territorial districts which Wellesley had promised as some recompense for his great services. But worse still in 1834, when Coorg was seized by the Co., three of the widowed Ranis of the Raja who had bestowed on one occasion only Rs.600,000 on this very Co., were made prisoners at Mercara, marched to benares, and are still living there as captives in old age and penury.

Gen. Wellesley visited the Raja in Mercara (?) and wrote on the 15th June 1801, "I have had constant intercourse with him, and I think him by far the best native that I have ever met."

Yet Viraraja, not withstanding his long and intimate acquiantance with the highest class of Br.officers and civilians, although, like Baird, he had been Tipu's captive, though he had fought side by side with Gen.Stuart, and was honoured with hearty esteem by Wellesley Brs. even he shared the anxiety felt by the native princes throughout India, in watching the rapid dimunition of the power----.

The word 'annexation' was not then used, and the measures adopted for the territorial aggrandisement of the Co., were necessarily more gradual and guarded than in late years----the treatment of deposed princes (or conquered) was likewise far more liberal, but the syatem was substantially the same from the days of Clive and Warren Hastings to those of Lord Dalhousie.

Directly or indirectly, every accession of territory was on fresh source of profit to Europeans of all classes----In most of the case transactions the native ruler of the state to be absorbed had facilitated the process by seeking the aid of the Co., against internal or external foes, and pledging himself to payments which he was unable to make by oppressing his subjects or surrendering his dominions piecemeal.

In the latter case, the Co., interfered on behalf of the oppressed people, and took them under their own rule; in the former, they allowed a stipulated payment for a subsidiary force (of which the native prince had the nomial and the Co. the actual control and benefit) to accumulate until the amount of arrears hopelessly exceeded his power of payment, upon which the Co., seized his territory instead.

The position of the Raja of Coorg admitted of neither procedure. He needed no aid from the Co. He well-governed, the country was peaceful and prosperous, its mountains and forests were held by loyal and warlike subjects, and lastly his expenditure was considerably within his revenue, a circumstance particularly convenient to the Co. who, borrowers from the beginning to the end of their career obtained repeated loans of money from the Raja to enable their factors at Tellichery to purchase supplies of pepper and other Eastern produce for remittance to England.

A letter from Gen.Abrecromby is extant, which is curious as illustrating how strongly the safety of the investment was urged upon the Raja as a reason for continuing to lend money to the Co., at a considerably lower rate of interest than he might have obtained elsewhere.

To Madras, 23rd Sept. 1793.

The Raja of Coorg,

" I have had the happiness to receive your friendly letter of the Ist July and 28th Aug. I am extremely glad to find that you enjoy good health.

With regard to the business on which you write, I have to acquaint you that the credit of the hon'ble Co., is so great that the supreme Govt. has resolved to pay no higher interest than 6% per annum and such of their creditors as donot choose to accept so low an interest for their money may have the principal paid to them.

Mr.Robert Taylor (of Tellichery) has been informed of this, and has been directed by the Govt. of Bombay to tell you that, if you donot wish to let your money remain in the Co.'s Treasury at 6% per annum, he will pay you with full amount of your account with interest due upon it at the rate of 8% per annum. Lest there should have been any mistake, I have written to Mr.Taylor an order that the business may be immediately settled without giving you any further trouble.

I wrote to you some time ago that I had procured a rifle gun for you and that Mr.Sandford would send it to you, from Bombay as soon as weather would permit.

I propose to sail for Bengal tomorrow, when I shall always be glad to hear from you.

Madras 23rd Sept.1793. Sd) Rob.Abrecfomby.

\+ + + + + +

The vantage ground on which he stood as creditor could not make the Raja forget that his principality was bordered by the dominions of his powerful debtor, he had also good reason for considering that his steady adherence had not been appreciated at its due value----Gen.Wellesley listened with patient symapthy Viraraja's complaints and represented to his brother, the G.G., the Raja's fear, "that the English on the eastern side of the Peninsula were not aware of the services which he had had it on his power to render to the Co., who, he said, were very desirous of prejudicing us against him." (Letter by Wellington- 7th April 1800)

Two years later in 1802, Gen.Wellesley urged the cession of some territory in Kanara to the Raja on the ground that, "We owe him much, the position of his country is highly important to us, and it is more so to our character in this country to keep him in the situation in which he is." (Supplementary despatches- 15th Dec.1802)

In 1804, the G.G. under instructions from England acknowledged "the long and faithful services" of the Raja of Coorg by the highest mark of respect which can be paid to an Indian prince, the gift of a sword, accompanied by a official letter in which Lord Wellesley said, "I have had frequent occasions to express to you the sentiments of approbation with which I have contemplated the zeal and attachment you have uniformly manifested during a long course of years towards the Br.Govt."

(After this he gives the copies of the Binny & Co & Devammaji's letters)

Linga Raja ruled from 1809 to 1820. Gen.Welsh's impressions about his dignified and simple mode of life of "this excellent prince----Such a man as the head of his followers, must be invincible. So perfectly different from the effiminate grandeur of most Eastern potentates." Referring to Viraraja the Younger, he said, "The heir-apparent----a handsome boy,

dressed in a general's uniform with a sword by his side----"

His accession was recognised by the British Govt. in 1820, soon after Lingaraja's death.

Owing to his imperfect training, his remarkable intellectual powers were never developed. Had he been taught the English language, he would have needed no other advocacy than that of his own honest pen to refute columnies against him, so easily invented, so recklessly propagated and so readily believed. His uncle Viraraja had learned prudence in the school of adversity, he numbered Englishmen of the highest class among his personal friends, and yet, or perhaps on this very account, he thoroughly understood the danger of his position as an independent prince.....

The nephew----left the details of Govt. to a devoted and experienced minister Basawappa----He ~~trxxxx~~ tolerated all religions---even encouraged Christian missionaries. He was prouf of his little army. The different forts and passes were guarded by about 100 pieces of cannon. In case of emergency every zamindar was bound to do military service- Like his ancestors much addicted to field sports-hunting-welcomed English guests- showed hospitality- erected bungalows as guest houses---The fame of the wealth of the Raja and prosperity of Coorg rendered it a tempting prize, it was evident that its annexation would add greatly to the value of Mysore and Malabar, as a fine coffee and spice producing region, well-adapted by its temperate and salubrious climate for the residence of Europeans; it was besides the only independent state in Western India between Bombay and Madras.

Casamajor was Raja's enemy----Raja's illness---Jeaferson's visit to attend the Raja---His and Capt.Hill's experience etc.

Chenabasava attended by an armed band of conspirators, on crossing the Coorg frontier into Mysore proceeded to Yelwal direct, the country residence of Casamajor. Raja was informed this and many people offered to bring back Chenabasava, dead or alive to Coorg. The Raja refused to sanction such proceedings relying on the good faith of the Company and the terms of their treaties ~~xxxx~~ of friendship etc.

The demand ~~wax~~ of the Raja was justified by the principle laid down by Vattel (International law Book II Chap 6. Sec.75) respecting the right of the soverign to be delivered up on the ground that such subject had committed a heinous crime in the country of the sovereign demanding him. It said:

"This is pretty generally observed with respect to great crimes, which are equally contrary to the laws and safety of all nations. Assassins, incendiaries and robbers are seized everywhere at the desire of the sovereign in whose territories the crime was committed, and delivered up to his justice. The matter is carried still further in state more closely connected by friendship and good neighbourhood."

The case, as put by Vattel, becomes much stronger in the case of Chenabasava, who was the subject of the sovereign whose people were slain.

The conduct of the Br. Resident, in unhesitatingly relieving and protecting an armed party of fugitives from a friendly state, is in strong contrast to that of former Br.Residents, who had no personal quarrel with the Coorg rulers. The Raja appears to have considered the matter as one of state policy and have honestly believed that the Br. Govt. if made acquainted with the true circumstances of the case, would compel their subordinate to do him justice-----But the Resident contemptuously replied that Chenabasava had sought protection of the E.I.Co. and no matter what were his alleged crimes, he would not be given up to his sovereign. After this the Raja addressed various letters to the Br. authorities requesting the murderers might be judiciously tries, but no attention was paid and no answers given.....

About Canara Menon, it is said, "was in reality a spy. The force for the conquest of Coorg had been organised for some months by the Madras Govt. Adj-Gen.Conway, who had been in Coorg, examined, examined the country, and knew the strong attachment of the Coorgs to their prince, assured the Governor of Madras Sir.F.Adam) that it would reqire at least a force of 10,000 men to seize the Raja. Mr.Gramme, a civil servant of Madras, was instructed to obtain information on this point and he was afraid to venture into Coorg himself, and as no person was permitted to pass the Mysore frontiers without a pass from Br.Resident, and no one was admitted into Coorg at those frontiers without the authority of the Raja, Mr.Graeme devised a plan of sending an intelligent crafty native (who had been employed by him as a detective) to enter Coorg from Malabar side unobserved; by stealth he reached Mercara where he began his enquiries and intrigues until discovered by the Coorg Govt. When apprehended, he had no passport, and he refused to give up his name first and not until ~~his~~ he ~~life~~ thought his life in danger did he consider himself to be sent on a mission of investigation by Mr.Graeme. But he told lies during his exam. and Coorgs were alarmed by the fear of a Br.invasion, they objected to release Menon even when demanded by Graeme.

Henry Sullivan Graeme in a printed memo of his services in India (London 1838) says that in Oct.1833, "while Resident at Nagpur, he was appointed on a special conciliatory mission to the Raja of Coorg, then in a high state of irritation against the Br.Govt and its representative (Mr.Casamajor) Graeme proceeded to the frontier of Mysore with a large military escort and requested the Raja to quit his territories and come to the Br. camp. The Govt.of Coorg invited Graeme to go to Meracara, since the Raja was unwell. Mr.Graeme refused to proceed and said he was afraid of being assassinated in Coorg.

In a final letter to the Raja on 9th Feb.1834, Graeme justified the reception and asylum given by Casamajor to the murderer Chenabasava, on the plea that it was the right of the Br.Govt. "to afford protection to persons in distress, at their own entreaties", and informed the Raja that "it was not the practice of the Br. Govt. to act treacherously by their allies."

These correspondences with Graeme was of an angry tone. Quoting some a letter of 30th April 1799 of Lord Mornington, Mr.Graeme said that the Raja owed "allegiance" to, and was "one of the dependants of the Co.,"

and added "the inhabitants of your country know that OWE OBEDIENCE to the Br.Govt. and that they are SUBJECT TO IT IN COMMON WITH YOU"

This statement naturally offended the Raja and his people. Coorg was not a serfdom belonging to the Co., and indeed never had been subject to the Br.Govt.

In 1792, Abrecromby told Cornawallis that the Raja was an ALLY not as a dependant. "The Raja of Coorg our faithful ALLY from the commencement of war----To the Raja who have given the most solemn assurances of protection and friendship against Tipu."

Similarly Marquess Wellesley spoke of the Raja as an ALLY not as a dependant- AN ALLY WHOSE ATTACHMENT, FORTITUDE, WISDOM AND INTEGRITY--"

In the letter of 9th Feb.1834, Graeme wrote "it is the inention of the Eng.Govt. to make war against you unless you release K.Menon. This must be done in six days from the receipt of this letter". It was Casamajor who gave him the idea that life of Menon was in danger in the hands of the Raja, "the blood-thristy monster".

Therefore, Graeme was anxious about Menon's life. But the Governor of Madras in a letter to Grareme on 9th April 1834- after the war wrote saying "it would rejoice him to know that the life of K.Menon had not been sacrificed by the Raja. Indeed, the life of K.Menon was as safe in Coorg as it would have been in Madras."

Graeme wrote to Raja on the 6th Nov. 1833:- "By the preparation of murder, and the exercise of tyranny over your subjects, you will cause mismanagement in your kingdom; this does not become of you, and you are recommended to refrain from such a course of conduct."

The Raja replied on the 10th Nov 1833: "The contents of your letter surprised me. You charge me with the diabolical crime of murder and tyranny. I beg of you let me know the names of the parties I have put to death, the place, the date, on which I am charged with the crimes alleged against me: then I shall be able to furnish you with full particulars and information."

On the 17th Nov. Graeme wrote from Mysore: "I am in receipt of your letter- humble apologies- beg to state-mistake of the translator-----

The result of the correspondence was the Co., persisted in refusing to deliver up or inquire into the case of Chenabasavappa and the Raja refused to release K.Menon. In so doing they consciously acted on the principles laid down by Vattel.

"As we seize the things which belong to a nation, in order to compel her to do justice, we may equally for the reason arrest some of her citizens, and not release them until we have received full satisfaction. This is what the Greeks called ANDRO LIPSIA (seizure of men)

At Athens, the law permitted the relatives of him who had been assassinated in a foreign country, to seize three of the inhabitants of that country, and to detain him till the murderer was punished or delivered up. But in modern Europe, this method is seldom resorted to except with a view to obtain satisfaction for an injury of the same nature, that is to say, to compel a soverign to release a person whom he detains unjustly.

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On the 8th Feb.1834, the deputy Accountant Gen. of Madras returned the pro-note (65) to M/S Binny & Co., with a letter curtly stating "the usual communication from Govt. for payment to you of the interest due thereon, not having been received up to this date--". Binny & Co. enclosed the letter to the Raja and informed him that they retained the Note, awaiting his further directions. This was sent through Mysore Residency to the Raja, ~~and informed that they retained the Note~~ it never reached him. Mr. ~~Casamajor~~ Casamajor took possession of it and enclosed the packet to Mr.Graeme at Madras suggesting the expediency during the existing state of relations of the Co.'s authorities with Coorg, that the payment of interest on all the Raja's funded property should be suspended. (However, it is known that the suggestion that it would be ~~expedition~~ expedient to seize pro-notes was made by Mr.Graeme in Madras in 1833.

On the 17th Feb.1834, Lord Bentink, wrote from Madras to the Raja charging him with "a violation of the law of Nations by having forcibly detained K.Menon, a Br. subject who had been deputed by Mr.Graeme on a special mission to Mercara."

Nothing about withholding of the Raja's dividends, or intercepting of his agent's correspondence etc was stated. Bentink was advised only on the Menon affair.

Regret was expressed by Lord Bentink at the continued irritation and disrespect evinced by the Raja in his correspondence with Graeme.

The G.G.describes his feelings towards the Raja as "those of parental kindness and solicitude" and he dwells on "the deep interest long felt by the Br. Govt. of the welfare of the Coorg state, the kind friendship and services rendered by your ancestors and predecessors to the Govt., and the circumstances attending the connexion between the two states, which since its commencement has been equally honourable to both."

In this kindly letter of the G.G. there is no imputation of ~~exe~~ cruelty, tyranny or other crime except the detention of K.Menon and of "disrespect to Mr.Graeme" whose accussation had been so promptly met, and so thoroughly withdrawn and apologised for.

G.G.'s health was failing at this time. He was struck down by apoplexy at Bangalore. The downfall of the Raja was then speedily effected. Giving ultimatum of 6 days to the Raja to release Menon, they said, "hostilities would forthwith be commenced against Coorg." The chiefs and people implored the Raja to resist the tyranny. Both parties prepared for war.

In their correspondence, the Br. referred to the law and usages of the nations. Before invading the allied and independent state, they were bound by that same law to issue formally, and under the signature of their G.G. in the name of King of England, a "declaration of war" setting forth the true cause for hostilities. Instead of that Lt.Col. Fraser, described as 'Political Agent' of the G.G. issued the proclamation on the 15th March 1834.

It was widely circulated in several languages, full of false imputations----It was not true that the Raja was "a dependant ally of the

E.I.Co., He was not "guilty of the greatest oppression and cruelty towards the people subject to his Govt. Some other phrases are "unmindful of his duty as a ruler", "the most hostile disposition against the Co.," from whom he and his ancestors have invariably received every degree of kindness and protection"

But the fact was precisely the reverse. By that time the Br.Army was about to invade the Coorg frontier. The Raja in a letter described the invasion as follows: "Soon after your memorialist heard that troops were entering his country at five different points, two of the columns were driven back by his subjects, who had risen to oppose the invasion and a 3rd column was at the foot of the W.Ghats, which your memorialist knew, if defended by a few brave and resolute men, would be almost impregnable to any invading force. Finding himself thus in actual hostile collision with the Br.Govt. whom your memorialist had been taught in his childhood---------quote-----

Simultaneously with the sending of the flags of truce, I released K.Menon, I released K.Menon, invested him with a Khelat or dress of honour, ~~and safety to the~~ presented him with an elephant and other valuables, and despatched him in all honour and safety to the Br.Camp. I sent a request that the columns should halt until a deferance could be mede to the G.G., this was not complied with, and the different divisions continued to advance under the protection of the flags of truce.

The division advancing from W.Ghats was commanded by Gen.Foulis, who was known to me, and he wrote to me a friendly letter, and the Sepoys of this division were by my orders actually assisted up the different passes by his own people sent for that purpose.

As the troops were all marching on the capital, I considered it prudent to retire to Nalknad, a strong position in the heart of the forest about I2 or I5 miles away. Gen.Lindsay's column took possession of the capital and Col.Fraser sent me summons to come in and surrender which after only a short delay I obeyed."

(Above Contd: ----In his childhood to consider as the friend and protector of his family, your memorialist was deeply distressed in mind, and he immediately despatched flags of truce to all the columns and thereby at once put a stop to further bloodshed. To those officers who served in Coorg, it must be welknown that the fighting if I had allowed it to go on, would have been most severe, as the strongest stockades, barriers and Ghats were all in the possession of the armed Coorgs, who were congregated in great force and would have defended them to the last-----"

Gen.Foulis in the Ist days' attack I2 killed and 36 wounded: Col. Waugh at the first assault 48 lost (killed Col.Mill and other officers) and II8 wounded. Col. Jackson had 30 killed and 36 wounded. None of these brigades were able to force the passes.

On the 23rd April, the Raja came to Mercara with his retinue, Ranis of Lingaraja and of his grand uncle Ciraraja and about 2000 dependants, and the whole of his treasure and those of his family. His entire property amounted to I6 lakhs Rs. was seized by Col.Fraser as prize money. On the 23rd they started their march to Vellore.

The Coorgs were much incensed, and people of different villages through which the prisoners passed crowded round with tears and lamentations, but the Raja pacified them with the assurance that when he should have seen and explained matters to the G.G. he would be restored to them.

The prize money included "two bags of gold coin" taken by the Br. from Chenabasava who admitted that he was a robber as well as a murderer. He lived till 1865 in Appangala under the Br. protection.

When the Raja was told that he was a close prisoner and must quit his palace in a few hours to an unknown destination and his country under a military escort, for some unknown place of confinement, his grief and that of his family may be imagined. The suffering was inflicted on him by those whom he had been taught to revere and love.

When it was decided on "for his safe custody" and that his confinement would be "more or less rigorous as his future conduct may appear to merit," the Raja wrote a letter to Col.Fraser, when his family kept weeping around him and distracted with grief.

"It is represented that I received yesterday evening about 5'o clock, your Persian letter under dated 17th April, and noted the contents.

When that great Sirkar expresses such a desire, I can do nothing. It is well agreeably to the contents of your letter addressed to me under the instruction of H.E. the Rt.hon'ble the G.G. when I prepare to remove from this place, my family and my people, are so over-whelmed with grief that our senses fail us, and we are as if about to die. I have no other protection but that of God and of yourself. As I am unable to exercise any power, I cannot make any preparation for my journey with my family. I therefore beg to state that whenever you will be pleased to make all these necessary preparations, I will be ready to depart."

Mercara was a scene of lamentation when the royal prisoner accompanied by five Ranis 2 sisters, 3 Ranis of Viraraja the Elder, 13 ladies of his father Lingaraja, several children, 30 female servants, 13 eunachs, 55 followers of various ranks quitted their happy home, beautiful palace and magnificent country, and followed their chief into captivity.

(figure by D.Carpenter)

On the 18th April 367 signatures were collected and memo presented to the Br. in favour of Raja---Officials of Wallunder and inhabitants of Coorg----(refer-elsewhere)

On the 12th May the Raja reached Bangalore and then removed for Vellore and then in March 1835 for Benares where he was a P.O.W. without hope of release from such a position until death should terminate his captivity to the E.I.Co.,

The "Coorg Case" was treated as an ordinary annexation and the officials of the E.I.Co. House, Leadenhall St. printed and published matter which effectually stifled all public inquiry in England. E.I.Co., paid him £ 6000 a year being the annual interest payable on the two pro-notes which they fraudulently acquired.

Their personal property was seized. On the 6th June 1835, the Crown granted a warrant of distribution of the plunder enumerated as follows:

I. From the Mercara fort and its neighbourhood and by the sale of the properties etc Rs. 12,49,834

Amount of concealed treasure dug up at Ramasami Kanive	2, I9,402.
2 bags of gold coins at the same place (dug out)	I7,984
2 bags of gold coins given up by Chenabasava	9,5I5
Total-------	I4,96,735.

The second and the third items are the treasure which the Raja buried in Sirlikote. One Mandira Utaya removed some for his own use but later he was forced to show the Br.Agent the spot. When the Raja was captured, Chenabasava was asked to surrender to the captors all his robbed gold and that is the fourth item.

The two pro-notes of £ 98,382 were not included in this plunder.

While the Raja was in Benares, Col.Carpenter applied for these Notes as his personal and confiscated property. The Madras Govt. wrote to Binny & Co on July 22, I834 demading from that firm the Pro-Note No; 65 for Rs. 6,59,940. To this demand (made in the secret Dept. of Madras Govt.) M/S Binny & Co, wrote on July I834 (24th July)

"On the I3th Sept.(I833) we received, under cover of a letter from the Resident in Mysore, a letter from the late Raja of Coorg enclosing a Govt. Pro-Note in the name of Devammaji, Rani of Coorg, for Rs.653940, with a request that we should receive the interest due on it as we had for many years past been in the habit of doing. This, we presume, is the note alluded to in the letter from the Govt. and while we beg to disclaim any desire to retain possession of, or unwillingness to comply with the wishes of the Govt. in respect to it, more particularly, if protected by their guarantee from any pecuniary responsibility consequent to our doing so- we at the same time submit that we are doubtful how far, as agents, we can deliver up a Govt. Pro-Note received from a Constituent to anyone else, unless under his orders or authority, without committing a breach of faith. We trust, therefore, that under the pecuniary circumstances of the case, we are not soliciting too much when we submit our request, that the authority of the late Raja of Coorg for our delivering up the Pro-Note may be obtained, or if that is not expedient, that the opinion of the Govt.-law-officer on the point in question may be taken, and furnished to us for our guidance. In conclusion, we would beg that H.E.Rt.hon'ble the G.G. may be assured that the only case of hesitation in complying with request now conveyed to us, consists in our fear of compromising our duties as agents.

Sd) Binny & Co.,

The question remained in the same state for 3 years; fruitless appeals on the side of the Raja, delays and silence on the part of the Govt. till the latter suddenly adopted a new view of the case, and the Chief Sec.to the Madras Govt. wrote to Binny & Co.,on the 4th April I837, to acquiant them that the Govt. did not acknowledge the proprietory right of the ex-Raja to the Govt. Security standing in the name of his aunt, the late Devammaji.

The Co., paid the interest to the Raja from I82I to 2nd Dec.I829, and up to 23rd Sept.I83I. After this, Co. delayed paying interest and cautioned Binny & Co not to part with the said Note and then asserted

that the Note did not belong to the Raja. Finally in the year 1840, Binny & Co, were compelled to commit a breach of faith to their unfortunate client by surrendering the Pro-Note to the E.I.Co.

(William Scott Binny (who is now in England) informs me that he wrote the above letter, 24th July 1834, that he considered the Pro-Note which the Govt required him to surrender was the personal property of the Raja, for whom he annually received the interest; that he left India before the firm of Binny & Co. gave up the Note to the Madras Govt. and that he had remained in India, he would have violated the duties of an Agent by giving to Govt. or any one, property entrusted to his care).

(See: Judgement by Lord Romilly, Coorg Chancery Suit-8th Dec.1860)

Lord Romilly, Master of the Rolls, gave a succinct statement of the proceedings of the Co. regarding this Note (Rs.203,900) and stated, "the Note for Rs.203,900 had been left by the Plaintiff (ex-Raja) in the hands of Mr.Casamajor, the Br.Resident at Mysore, took possession of this Note, giving a receipt for it to the Resident at Mysore. It was then sealed up in a cover which was fastened with the official seal of the Commissioner of the Mysore Govt. It was then placed in the Treasury where it has since (8th Dec.1860, remained and no interest has been paid upon it. Since 1864----". The endorsement of the original cover in which the Note for Rs.203,900 was placed and sealed up when delivered to the Agents of the Defendants (the E.I.Co.,) was to this effect, both in Hindustani and in English, "a Bengal Pro-Note for Sicca Rs.203,900 belonging to the ex-Raja of Coorg".

Raja wrote to the Court of Directors from 23, Onslow Square, London, May 13, 1853. He said: "the father of 12 children, 7 sons and 5 daughters.

He also said, " The simple enquiry is, whether according to the official evidence of those books, I am not the acknowledged lawful proprietor of the two bonds of the E.I.Co., one for Sicca Rs.203,900 and the other for Madras Rs,653,940. (After this some more correspondence went on.)

The Raja in a court of Directors on the 23rd Nov.1854 denied the columny with the greatest indignation, about killing his people, about Chenabasava and the verification by Graeme etc. Mr.Martin says.-

THE accusation brought forward FOR THE FIRST TIME TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE ALLEGED PERPETRATION OF THE CRIME, IN ORDER TO DEFEAT A PECUNIARY CLAIM, IS IN ITSELF A PROOF OF THE HEEDLESS AND UNSCRUPULOUS MEANS USED BY THE E.I.CO, TO CRUSH THE RAJA."

It was at this time, when the fortunes of the deposed prince were at their lowest ebb, that I first knew him. The introduction came through Rev.William Arthur, a gentleman much respected by the religious and missionary public, and now President of the Wesleyan Conference. Mr.Arthur had been in Mysore, and was thoroughly acquianted with the Raja's case, and spoke Kannada. He felt strong sympathy and respect for the Raja and was much impressed with the discretion he had evinced both in India and in England, in his dignified mode of urging his claims, and his unwillingness to suffer his cause to be used by intriguers of any nation. Knowing the view I had taken of the Satara case, Mr.Arthur asked me to join him in an appeal to the E.I.Co., for the friendly settlement of the Raja's claim on the two Pro-Notes.

After several interviews in Leadenhall St., Sir James Cosmo Melwill, Secretary to the E.I.Co., told us it was considered that the Highcourt of Chancery would be the best tribunal for the adjudication of the claim and advised us the full cooperation of the E.I.Co. and they would not offer any obstruction to the Chancery procedure.

Mr.M.Martin writes, "The Raja came to me one morning in great distress to say that he had been advised to proceed to Paris to avoid being seized as a prisoner by the E.I.Co., I told him that he was here "on his parole or word of honour". Thus he lived for some months in daily fear of being arrested.

The diary of the I2th April I853 of Mr.Martin says, "---went by invitation to meet the Raja of Coorg at the residence of Rev. William Arthur, 26 Campden Grove, Kensington. Raja appeared much distressed. Figure small but very compact. Hands. feet and ears small; nose acquiline, eyes prominent, mouth full, and expression of features good; head large and round, frontal sinuses full, comparison larger than causality. Manners those of high breeding. He showed some of his penal drawings; did not play as was his wont on the violin, spent an agreeable evening with the unfortunate prince."

Having been told by the Sec. of the E.I.Co.,that they "would afford all possible aid toward a final settlement on the merits of the case", the Raja laid his case before the leading counsel of the Chancery Bar, and the following was the opinion of Mr.Bethall (now-Lord Westbury) and Mr.Arthur J.Lewis, since H.M.'s advocate-general of Bombay. They said:

"We are of opinion that he has a right to treat the securities as being still his private property. The remedy is a Bill in the Court of Chancery for a declaration of right to the securities in question and for payment to him by the E.I.Co., of the amount due on those securities together with the arrears of interest from the last payment of much interest prior to his deposit."

The suit rested on clause ~~(I0)~~ (I0) of the Act of Parliament, termed the E.I.Co.'s Charter, passed on 28th Aug.I833, which provided:

"So long as the possession ~~of xxx~~ and Govt. of the said territories (in India) shall be continued to the said Company, ALL PERSONS and bodies politic ~~s~~shall and may have and take the same suits, remedies and proceedings, legal and equitable, against the said Co., in respect of such debt and liabilities as aforesaid (the territorial debt of the said Co., of India) and the property vested in the said Co., in trust (for his Majesty) as aforesaid the territorial revenues and acquisitions of India, SHALL BE SUBJECT AND LIABLE TO THE SAME JUDGMENTS AND EXECUTIONS in the same manner and from respectively as if the property were hereby continued to the Co., to their own use."

Under the clause, the E.I.Co., was liable to be sued for the payment of the two Pro-Notes, without any reference to the delegated powers conferred on them by the Crown in regard to the administration of G.O.I.

Owing to the assurance that the Co., desired to see his claim speedily decided, the Raja filed his Bill in Chancery on the I7th June

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1854; but instead of their facilitating the process of inquiry they offered every possible obstacle in the shape of delays, forms, denials and legal subterfuges. The Co. even endeavoured to stop the suit by declaring that the Raja was P.O.W. to their Govt., and as such he was again ordered to return to India immediately and informed that security must be given for the costs of the Chancery suit.

Arthur Lewis said: "The ground on which the Court of Directors rest their opposition to the Raja's claim in that above letter is, that in whatever right the Raja may claim to be entitled to the Notes in question, they (Notes) formed part of general property, and were included in the Act of confiscation, and therefore, belonged to the Govt. I always suspected that that would be their ground of defence. They will in all probability rely upon it in their answer to the Raja's Bill; and if so, it will be the great question to be decided in the cause.

"The above ground of defence now taken by the Court of Directors is certainly not what they have hitherto advanced. From the documents which I have read, the statement made by the Sec. of India House to Mr. Martin and Rev. Arthur, I was led ~~by~~ to believe that they admitted their liability to pay the monies due on the Notes, but only I required the Raja to prove his title to them. Such a course is somewhat disingenous, ----" The Court of Directors are obviously in error in assuming that the Raja cliams BOTH the Pro-Notes as heir to Devammaji. Such is not the case. And the imputation cast on the death of his having put Devammaji and her children to death is alike unjust and uncalled for----"

Chancery Lane-19th Oct. 1854. Arthur J.Lewis, Chancery Bar.

(The Raja deposited £ 500 at Coutte and Co, in the name of Rev. W. Arthur and M.M.Martin to meet the cost of the suit.)

(Then comes the proceedings of the House of Lords.)

On the 8th July 1856, Milner Gibson presented a petition to the House of Commons from the Raja, requesting the interference of Parliament to procure him leave to remain in England pending the decision of his suit in England and obtain for him the continuation of his pension, together with the payment of the arrears.

The Co. anxious to prevent further parliamentary discussion wrote on Sept.12, 1856 informing the Raja that the payment of his monthly pension would be immediately resumed, the arrears paid up, and that he was authorised to remain in England for the prosecution of his suit. This permission he eagerly embraced. He was happy. He could not think of going back to India. He lived like a poor man. For seven years he fought manfully and suffered acutely under the cruel allegations brought against him. But he remained firm and strong; but his physical strength gave way under repeated false accussations and disappointments. The E.I.Co., had so effectually branded him as a tyrant and a profligate. He never uttered hostile or rancorous expression towards those who had grievously maligned him. Of all the misrepresentations, he was touched by Thornton's description "as tyrannical, haughty and everything that a prince or ruler ought not to be; and in fact; that his whole life was one of the vice and infamy."

Even while a captive in England, the Raja took delight in martial exer-

exercises. He frequently contested with many in feats of swordsmanship. He could weild with ease around his head two heavy clubs.

At length his health broke down under his accumulated sufferings and anxieties; he grew indifferent to life. However, he resolved to make a last appeal to the Queen. On July 8th, I859, an almost dying request on behalf of his family, he dictated----(quoted already)

Despairing of redress, the Raja sunk under the sickness of hope deferred; he died; his English secretary remarked of a "broken heart" at Paddington on the 24th, 25th Sept. I859. His will of 20th June was admitted and proved at the Principal Registry of H.M.'s Court of Probate on the 2nd Nov. I859. Sir John Login and Myself were the executors.

The Solicitor of the Council of India H.S.Lawford was informed by Lord Stanley on the 6th May I859 that H.M.'s Govt desire that the claim of the Raja in the Chancery suit shall be "decided on its own merits", and he was ordered to "expedite the hearing of the cause". The Master of the Rolls authorised on the 27th June I859 the Executors to revive the suit and appointed an immediate day for hearing. Sir Roundell Palmer pleaded the facts of the case quoting "Everything that belongs to the nation is subject to reprisals-----, and dwelt forcibly on the public law recognised and acted on by the civilised world, which makes it a violation of public faith to confiscate the money or debts owed th an enemy. The Attorney General objected to the jurisdiction of the Court and to the Master of the Rolls hearing the cause; but Court over-ruled all that. In giving the judgment the Master of the Rolls said, "They were both the Co., of the merchants (double role of the E.I.Co.,) trading to the E.Indies and a sovereign power. From hence follows that the acts done by the defendants are frequently of an ambiguous character, and that it becomes extremely difficult to ascertain whether any particular act is to be attributed to the exercise of the political power of a sovereign state or to the act of the Co., of merchants. If this can fairly be ~~settled~~ represented to be the instance of a foreign power taking ~~possession~~ prisoner an enemy, and by means thereof; and whilst so holding him, obtaining the possession of documents which established his right to recover a debt due from another to him in his private capacity, then I am clear that the plaintiff (the Raja) is entitled to relief."

Both I (Mr.Martin M.) and Sir Login did not know of our being appointed as Executors of Raja's will till a few hours of his death. The house of the Raja was being plundered of jewels and valuables while its master was lying senseless on the bed of death. I caused the body encased in lead and deposited in an open unconsecrated catacomb on Kensel Green cemetery. The deceased was much respected for his courteous, gentle bearing, and his ready unostentious charity and his funeral cortege was followed by several of his neighbours and many of the poor in the vicinity. Rev.W.Arthur performed the funeral obsequies and stated at the grave that he knew the Raja to have been at heart imbued with Christian principles though he had not formally adopted Christianity.

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The death took place at midnight of Saturday the 24th at No.20, Clifton Villas, Maida Hill, Paddington.

"He retained his calm collected mind to the last moment of existence; spoke of seeing green trees and a beautiful country to which he was going, and tenderly took leave of all around him. He was respected by those who understood his true character; his conduct was that of a noble-minded gentleman, he was sincere, amiable and much given to charity, ~~and many tears were shed~~ By the poor and sick in his neighbourhood, he was believed, and many tears were shed at his grave when Rev.Arthur offered up a prayer to the great Father of Spirits for the peace of his soul", thus wrote in a letter Mr. Martin wrote to the Coorg family in India.

Rev.Gostick who was in India and knew Kannada attended the Raja ministerially and frequently engaged in prayer with the Raja sometimes before his disease. On the 6th Oct.1959 he wrote, "I was much pleased with the character of his Highness". (kn)

Gangamma ~~who~~ was married to Rana Jung Bahadur G.C.B. of Nepal. He had assisted the British in the conquest of Oudh.

In the final answer to the Bill the E.I.Co., denied the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery but practically admitted that it had £ ~~20x~~ 200,000 of the private monies belonging to the Raja in its possession, which it would retain, because there was no tribunal that had power to compel the Co. to give it up.

Secondly, the Co. asserted that two Pro-Notes belonged to it by right of conquest though they were not seized as "booty or prize" at Coorg but were dishonestly and dishonourably obtained from the Mysore Residency and from Binny & Co at Madras.

Thirdly, the Co., pleaded the "Statute of Limitations in India"; the Company, having kept the Raja a close prisoner at Benares, rejected all his applications while a prisoner, and prevented his filing a Bill as a P.O.W. in the Supreme Court at Calcutta.

Fourthly, the Co., asserted that the Raja still its prisoner (Aug. 1858) was in the position of a slave and could hold no property, nor originate any suit for its restitution.

These untenable and unfair means were adopted by the Crown who succeeded as defendants to the suit on 2nd Aug.1858, when the political functions of the E.I.Co, were set aside by the Parliament, and a Sec. of State for India for the Govt. of that country in the sole name of the Crown. Therefore, not only was the undertaking by the E.I.Co., in 1854, to leave the claim of the Raja for the restitution of his private property to be decided by the Court of Chancery, set aside, but the announcement of the Sec. of State (Lord Stanley) in May 1859, that Govt. was desirous of the "suit being decided on its own merits" proved to be falacy.

After a further exam. of the issue, His Honour dwelt on the point as to the distinction alleged by the defendants that these Notes were JURA REGALIA and not the property of the Raja; but the E.I.Co., in 1834, did not treat these Notes as JURA REGALIA; they borrowed the money (in 1793) as the private individual property of the Rajas of Coorg; the Notes were not confiscated; their proceeds and value were not considered as prize

property; they were not classed among JURA REGALIA of prize or booty which were divided between the E.I.Co., and their soldiers. One of the Notes No. 65 for £ 65,394 was obtained by the Co. on the plea that the Raja was not the rightful owner; and subsequently the Co., refused to restore it on the plea that the Raja had murdered his aunt Rani Devammaji, and next they asserted that it had been confiscated as prize; all which pleas are untrue. In a despotic monarchy or state, especially in the East, the sovereign has no money distinguishable as his PUBLIC and PRIVATE property. Whatever moneys he possesses he has the right to deal with as his private and individual property. He can give or lend those moneys to whom he chooses without question; and the Raja might have bestowed the notes in question on Mr.Casamajor and on M/S Binny & Co, without anyone calling him to account-----When the E.I.Co., borrowed money from the Raja they did not inquire whether it was his public or private property; they knew perfectly well that there was no such distinction and that the Raja had much right to deal with the surplus revenues of his principality as any English Duke has to deal with the ritual of his estates or demenese.

In this connection, authorities were cited by Counsel for argument: i) Phillimore's International Law ii) Vattel on Reprisals iii) Gill V. Cubitt iv) Morre's India Appeals v) Nawab of Carnatic V. E.I.Co., vi) Gibson V.E.I.CO. vii) Mill's History of British India etc.

The Court concurred in the view enforced by the conclusive argument of Counsel, and would have decided in favour of the Raja; but the Attorney Gen. who represented the Govt. adopted an unexpected line of defence, by declaring himself INSTRUCTED BY HIS BRIEF (SIR CHARLES WOOD) TO OBJECT TO A COURT OF LAW OR COURT OF CHANCERY TRYING THE CAUSE AT ALL, ALLENGING THAT THE PROCEEDINGS OUT OF WHICH THIS SUIT ROSE WERE ACTS DONE BY TWO INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN POWERS IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR ROYAL PREROGATIVE, AND THAT A MUNICIPAL COURT COULD NOT EVEN INQUIRE INTO THE CASE.

Finally the Master of the Rolls decided that the equity of the cause could not be decided on its own merits on account of technical plea of the Attorney Gen.who represented the Br. Govt. He said:

" I AM OF THE OPINION THAT THE TAKING POSSESSION OF THE NOTES BY THE E.I.CO., WERE ACTS DONE IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR SOVEREIGN POWER, AND THAT THOSE ACTS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE CONTROL OF THE COURT. I MUST THEREFORE DIRECT 'THE BILL TO BE DISMISSED, BUT I MUST DO SO WITHOUT COSTS

This was the only mode in which his Honour could express his view of the equity of the appeal made by the Raja. Thus no legal decision has been arrived at; the suit in Chancery remains in abeyance until some tribunal be agreed to for its adjudication. The Master of the Rolls decided nothing, but said the claim of the Raja was, he thought, not within the jurisdiction of a municipal court.

The Executors thus failed in their adoption of the course suggested by the E.I.Co., and agreed to by Lord Stanley as Sec. for India and supposing that the Notes were now held by the Crown as part of the property received by the E.I.Co., when deprived of their governing power in India-

----the Lords of H.M.'s Treasury (I7th May I86I) that the value of the Notes might be "appropriated" to the benefit of "the family of the deceased Raja" as it was alleged (House of Commons Papers- 22nd July I863) that they were now at the disposal of the Crown.

The executors of the Raja's will sent a memorial to the Sec. of State for India, Charles Wood, regarding the disposition of the two Notes. In answer to this, they said in a letter of the 3rd Aug. I86I, "SIR CHARLES WOOD IS NOT AWARE OF ANY SUM OR SUMS OF MONEY BEING AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE LORDS OF THE TREASURY WHICH CAN BE APPROPRIATED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE FAMILY OF THE LATE RAJA". (After this followed the letters of 22nd Nov I86I, 3Ist Jan., 7th March, 28th July I862 and 5th Jan.I863 etc.)

On the grounds ~~se~~ thus set forth, it would appear that the India Govt. might have left the Raja and his family to starve if it had not been for the £ 6000 a year accruing from the principal and interest due on the two Notes.

After the receipt of the above reply (5th Jan I863) my co-executor deemed any further appeals to Charles Wood useless; and we resolved to wait a change of Ministry.

Sir J.Login died on the I8th Oct.I863, leaving to me the duty of appealing to H.M.'s present Ministers through the Sec. of State for India, for a legal decision on what Charles Wood styles "THE APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILY OF THE LATE RAJA OF COORG TO THE BENEFIT OF THE GOVT. PROMI? SSORY NOTES, SO LONG THE SUBJECT OF LITIGATION IN THIS COUNTRY".

(The contrast between the treatment of the ancient Royal family of Coorg and the large sums of money paid annually since I799 to the descendants and grand-children of Tipu, the inveterate enemy of the British, is very striking.)

Several courses like the following might be adopted to refer to the decision of the law Lords of H.M.'s Privy Council ii) The Petition of Right might be presented to the Crown iii) A Royal Commission might be appointed of impartial members of both Houses of the Legislature etc.

The wrong, it is true, was commenced by that anomalous body termed the East India Co., In that last century, when struggling traders, they borrowed the money in dispute to buy pepper, spices, cotton and other merchandize; and they paid I0 and even I2 percent per annum to the Raja of Coorg for the loan of various large sums of money. As time rolled on, this Co., of merchants became possessed of pupulous territories and assumed supreme power. The moneys they had borrowed as merchants, and could not repay, they converted into a public debt secured on the taxes and revenues of the territories they had acquired. Their extension of dominion became so large that the Crown interfered in the shape of a "Board of Control", and by the appointment of Governors and the G.G., subject to their recall and dismissal by the Court of Directors of the East India Company. The mercantile Body was entrusted with a delegated sovereignty, allowed to raise a military force, and to hire for definite periods, the ~~popularxtroops~~ the regular troops of the Crown. As traders, the Company, induced the Royal family of Coorg to invest in their funds their surplus revenues and personal savings, on the express ground, that though the interest was small, the secu-

security was greater than that afforded in other ways. As sovereigns, the Company invaded the territory of an independent ally, seized by force and bloodshed on the much-coveted principality, deposed the Raja, detained him and his family prisoners and exiles for life, confiscated every article of private property belonging to the family and their dependants that could be discovered, except their ward robes. THE PROMISSORY NOTE issued by the Company in their mercantile capacity, they obtained possession of, while yet in friendship with their creditor, on the plea of ordinary business arrangements for the payment of the interest; in their capacity of sovereigns, they withheld that interest and eventually, in that same regal capacity, have striven to repudiate the whole debt.

IN OTHER WORDS, THEY BORROWED MONEY AS MERCHANTS AND THEN WENT TO WAR WITH THEIR CREDITOR AS SOVEREIGNS, SEIZING THEIR OWN SECURITIES AT THE POINT OF BAYONET.

These securities, unconfiscated, unappropriated and unceasingly demanded by their acknowledged proprietor and his representative- (the Raja or his Executors of the Will).

The question of Notes now claimed, has been complicated by treating them ~~at~~ as at one time under the control of the Crown, and at another time as an asset of the Govt. of India. Practically these two authorities are one Power, and as such must be deemed responsible for the debts. obligations., liabilities of the East India Co., whose vast territories of one million sq. miles, forty million sterling of annual revenues and valuable (numerous) buildings, Arsenals, Forts, ships and stores, the whole value in the aggregate at Iooo million Sterling, were transferred to the Crown.

I have now, my Lord, narrated this distressing "case" as briefly as the calamitous circumstances connected with it would permit. I have faithfully endeavoured to state the truth; and believing in its omnipotence I will not despair of some measure of justice either from Her Majesty's Govt. or Parliament.

It is too ~~time~~ late to restore Coorg to its rightful sovereign, his death as a despairing prisoner of war has closed that account; but sure I am that international law, the good faith of England, and wise policy towards the princes~~s~~ and people of Hindustan, alike dictate the restitution of the funded property so long withheld, but so righteously belonging to the widows, orphans, relatives and dependants of the deposed, and degarded, but innocent Royal Family of Coorg.

I have yours-- etc.
R.Montgomery Martin. (Sd)

Wellesley Lodge, Sutton,
Surrey, 30th November I866.

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J. A. Hunnings
July 1974.

The Coorg Raja's Case.
By
Montgomery Martin.
to the
Secretary of State for India.
30th Nov. 1866.

By

I. M. Muthana

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